THE

SCOTS MAGAZINE.

M D C C L X X I I I.

V O L U M E XXXV.

Ne quid falſi dicere audeat, ne quid veri non audeat.

EDINBURGH:

Printed by A. MURRAY and J. COCHRAN.

A Chronological Series of Events, continued from our preceding volume.

To each article is annexed the number of the page of this volume in which it is to be found.

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To the BINDER.

CUT away the blue covers, and advertiſements ſtitched in any of the Magazines; and place this quarter of a ſheet, containing the General Title-page, the Chronological Series of Events, the Week-day Table, &c. before the Magazine for January.

Place the COPPERPLATE, repreſenting a whin-mill, and a houſe from which horſes may be led in a farm-yard, ſo as to front p. 465.

The day of the week on which every month of 1773 began: A help to find the date of any article expreſſed as falling on a certain week-day before or after a date mentioned.

[*The 1ſt, 8th, 15th, 22d, and 29th, of a month, fall on the ſame week-day.* —— *The month-day advances one week-day every common year, and two every leap year: ſo, as 1773 and 1774 are both common years, every month-day of the current year will fall on the week-day next after that on which the ſame month-day fell laſt year.*]

January,	Friday.	May,	Saturday.	September,	Wedneſday.
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Notes incloſed thus [ ], for explaining or illuſtrating any thing in a paper or extract, are generally our own. Notes added by the authors of the pieces inſerted, or by the compilers of the collections from which we take them, are not ſo incloſed. Examples of both may be ſeen, of the firſt p. 451. and of the ſecond p. 242. of this volume.

References made by letters and figures, when no book is named, point to this collection; the letters directing to the volumes, and the figures to the pages: *ex. gr.* Scots Magazine, vol. xxix. [or Mag. 1767.] p. 651. is thus referred to [xxix. 651.] in this volume, p. 95. col. 1. lin. 43. —— Vol. i. anſwers to the year 1739, vol. ii. to 1740, and ſo on, a volume every year. —— Figures without letters, point to pages of the volume in which the reference is made.

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3.	2.	24.	*for Ellham, read Eltham,*
5.	1.	55.	*for Dickſon. read Edmonſtone.*
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——	—	19.	*laſt Peaſe, read* 14 s. 7 d. 2 f.
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169.	2.	8.	*Contents. for* 122. *read* 222.
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561.	1.	1.	*Contents (alſo running titles) for* CHRISTINA *read* SOPHIA DOROTHEA —— *See p.* 648. *col.* 2. *l.* 45.

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To the author of the SCOTS MAGAZINE.

SIR, *January* 1773.

I Consider the following short account of Lesmahagow as a tribute due to the place of my nativity. At the same time I hope it will be agreeable to some of your readers, and be a means of engaging them to favour us with the antiquities to be found in the several parishes in which they reside, or with which they are connected. In this case, a far more complete and entertaining history of our country might soon be obtained. [xxxiv. 173.].

An account of the antiquities and other curiosities in Lesmahagow parish.

LESMAHAGOW is situate in the upper ward of Clydesdale, thirty computed miles from Edinburgh, sixteen from Glasgow, and twenty-five or twenty-six from the town of Air, or the western sea. It is called *Lesmahagow*, from *les*, which in Gaelic signifies a garden, and serves to point out its pleasant situation; and *Mahagow*, from *Machute*, the ancient guardian saint of the place.

We cannot think Lesmahagow, which is so sweet and delightful, especially on the water of Nethan, and in those parts bounded by the river Clyde, and which lies on the inner side of the famous wall betwixt the two friths, was unknown to the Romans, or unfrequented by them: and what puts this beyond all manner of doubt, is, that several of their urns have been found under large heaps of stones; and this was the case some years ago at

Auchlochan, and of late at Mossminnan.

Though Lesmahagow, and the adjacent country on all hands, belonged to the Picts before the extinction of their monarchy*; yet it seems to have been inhabitated originally by the Britons†; for two or three places in the upper district of the parish are named *Cumberhead*, probably from the *Cumbri*, the appellation, according to Buchanan‡, which the Welch, the progeny of the ancient Britons, assumed to themselves. And this likewise appears from the names of other habitations and farm-houses in different parts of the parish; such as, *Auch-inbeg*, *Auchren*, *Auch-lochan*, *Auch-teel*, *Auch-meddin*, *Auch-inleit*, *Auch tiffardle*, *Auch-tegavil*, *Auch-noteroch*, or *Auch-oteroch*, *Auch-tolivael*, *Auch-robert*, and *Knock-in*. The last of these names signifies a little hill. *Auch* imports field; *Auch-lochan*, the field near the loch or lake; *Auch-ren*, the field of fords; *Auch-teel*, the field of blood; *Auch-meddin*, the field of the meadow; *Auch-inleit*, the field of the large smooth stones; *Auch-noteroch*, or *Auch-oteroch*, the field of the dung-hills; *Auch-robert*, the field of Robert; and *Auchinbeg*, the little or inconsiderable field. All which hold with great propriety in the language of the old Britons, as well as in the Gaelic; betwixt which there seems to be a very near and close affinity, and some are of opinion they are only different dialects of one and the same tongue.

But not to insist on these antiquities and curiosities, I proceed to others of a more modern date, which therefore may be supposed to be better attested.

The church, called *St Mary's* church of Lesmahagow, is in the centre of the parish, distant from its several boundaries and extremities five or six miles. — The main entry to it is from the west, below a large, high, square steeple. On the north side of it without, are three coats of arms. One of them, which is the lowest, appertained to a family of the surname of *Weir*; another, above it, to a family of the Carrs, probably of the Carrs of Cessford, ancestors of the Dukes of Roxburgh; the third is so much defaced, that I could not discern the figures. These families have been principal benefactors to the church, and contributed largely to the building of it. — The church has four isles adjoining to it, two on the south, and two on the north. The isle to the north, and next to the steeple, belongs to Weir of Blackwood. It was built in the year 1595, and the arms of the family are yet to be seen on it. The isle opposite to it, on the south, called *Durham's isle*, was built, I imagine, much about the same time, by Durham of Duntarvet, who resided at that period in the neighbourhood, at Drumbeck's-hill, now an old ruin, and possessed the whole tithes of the parish. The other isle to the south, belongs to the proprietor of Corhouse. And the other isle to the north, belongs to the family of Weir of Stonebyres, built, or rather rebuilt, in the year 1725.

On the south side of the church, stood the ancient priory, called also the *monastery* or *abbey*, which was joined to the steeple. Here there were many magnificent buildings, and several elegant gardens. A few remains of which are yet to be observed. It had a spacious green on the west, from whence the village of Abbeygreen derives its name; and the water of Nethan, and a most delightful wood, two miles in length, consisting mostly of birch, to the east. In this wood there is an heap of rubbish, termed *St Fox's castle*, from one *Fox*, who was a man eminent for piety and good works, and on that account long remembered by those who resided in the priory.

The priory or monastery belonged to the Tyronenses, an order of monks, who had their name from their first abbey, called *Tyronium*, Tyron, in the diocese of Chartres; and not from the Latin word *Tyro*, as some would have it, by which they would point out their novitiate. It was a cell of Kelso, and shared considerably of its revenues. — It was founded by King David I. in the year 1140, and dedicated to St Machute, Bishop and Confessor, who died in 553*. His festival was celebrated every year the 15th of November†. There is a fair at Lesmahagow, which still goes under the name of *St Machute's fair*, or, as the common people express it, *St Muggus's fair*, or *Maggus fair*. And from him the church and parish is called in Latin *Cella Machuti*.

Henry Abbot of Kelso, and his chapter, grant unto Sir William Douglas, who has the title of *Miles*, or *Knight*, their

* Dr Macpherson's antiquities.
† Dr Robert Henry's history.
‡ Buch. hist. p. 34. Edinb. 1715.

* Spottiswoode on religious houses.
† Keith's history of the bishops.

lands

lands of Pollenell, in the barony of Lesmahagow, *Totam terram nostram de Pollenell, in tenemento de Lesmahagow, pro fideli consilio, et auxilio, et patrocinio.* These lands were granted unto him, *pro toto tempore vitæ suæ*, upon condition of paying yearly to the priory or monastery of Lesmahagow, *duas libras ceræ, in festo Sancti Martini in hyeme, nomine firmæ et recognitionis.* The charter is dated *in crastino Purificationis Beatæ Mariæ Virginis, apud Glasgow, in plena curia Justiciarii, anno gratiæ* 1270. King Robert the Bruce grants *Sancto Machuto, et monachis apud Lesmahagow Domino servientibus, ad luminare circa tumbam Sancti Machuti perpetuo sustinendum, decem mercas Sterlingorum annui redditus de redditibus molendinorum suorum de Maldesloy, liberas et quietas ab omnibus exactionibus, et demandis, in liberam, puram, et perpetuam eleemosynam.* The above sum was to be paid, *iisdem religiosis, vel eorum actornato, singulis annis, infra villam de Lanrik, per manus vicecomitis sui, qui pro tempore fuerit, ad duos anni terminos, viz. quinque mercas ad festum Pentecostes, et alias quinque mercas ad festum Sancti Martini in hyeme, sine contradictione, vel strepitu aliquali**. And Thomas Somerveile, the first Lord Somerveile, made a donation to the priory or monastery of Lesmahagow, to which William Somerveile his brother was a witness, in the year 1421, which was afterwards confirmed by King James I. 1427. And he made another mortification, out of his lands of Manuel in the county of Stirling, for a chaplain to the same priory or monastery, with consent of William Somerveile, his son, and heir-apparent, *pro salute animæ suæ, &c.* dated June 3. 1424, which was confirmed by King James that very year, on the 5th of June †.

These and many other lands were bestowed on the priory or monastery of Lesmahagow. It was not, indeed, the richest and most opulent in the country, but still it had very considerable revenues, independent of Kelso, no less than 1214 l. in money, 15 chalders 8 bolls 1 firlot and 2 pecks of bear, 41 chalders 8 bolls and 3 firlots of meal, and 4 chalders and 3 bolls of oats, as is evident from a distinct rental drawn up in 1556, in the Latin tongue ‡. It might well then support fourteen clergymen, who continually resided, besides others, who were present only at certain times, as they had particular charges somewhere assigned them in the parish; for instance, he that ministered at Chapelhill, above the priory or monastery; he that served the cure at a place called *Chapel* in the barony of Blackwood, &c.

The last prior of Lesmahagow was James Cuningham, third son of Alexander Earl of Glencairn, commonly called *the Good Earl*, on account of the active hand he had in the Reformation *. From him, or some of his predecessors, *Priorhill*, on the western boundary of the parish, has its appellation. There is a place above the priory or monastery, which is named *Monks-table*, and another below it, *Priest-holm*: and this shews how much the parish was frequented of old by the clergy.

The church here suffered a most dismal disaster; I tremble to relate it! in the year 1336. John Plantagenet, brother of Edward III. King of England, sirnamed of *Ellham*, and by others, as more suitable to his character, of *Hell-came*, burnt it to the ground, when a thousand innocent and harmless persons had fled into it, and thought themselves secure from danger in that sanctuary †. He had been guilty of the grossest inhumanities and barbarities: this is but one instance, and who can hear it without the strongest indignation! one instance, I say, of a great number that might be produced. — When we consider the complexion and genius of the age, we may conclude it was not long before it was rebuilt, and perhaps in a more grand manner than at first. But this did not preserve it from the fate of other religious houses at the Reformation, the high church of Glasgow excepted. The reformers, who were not under the direction of law, but guided by an outrageous and tasteless mob, pulled down the priory and church, destroyed the images and statues, and burnt the relicks of the saints and martyrs, which had been kept there in the most careful and sacred manner for many generations ‡. Before the Reformation, the church was certainly higher, and consequently more splendid and magnificent than at present, as appears from the traces of the old roof upon the east side of the steeple.

To other antiquities and curiosities in Lesmahagow, I may add Craignethan

* Spottiswoode on religious houses.

† Douglas's peerage.

‡ Keith's history, App. p. 186.

* Crawford's peerage, p. 169.

† Spottiswoode on religious houses; Abercromby's martial atchievements, vol. 2.

‡ Spottiswoode on religious houses.

castle, called by Buchanan *, the castle of *Draffen*. By whom, or when it was built, I know not. It is said the contriver and founder of it, proposed once to have built it at Trows, above the abbey or monastery of Lesmahagow, a pretty romantic situation, but at last fixed on the very spot where the remains or ruins of it now stand. It is situate on an high rock, which overlooks the river Clyde, and large tracts of ground on both sides of its banks, adorned with woods, planting, and many gentlemens seats; and overlooks also the lower parts of the water of Nethan, which soon discharges itself into the Clyde, and abounds with natural cascades and cataracts, with craggy cliffs and rocks, and woods of oak rising out of the rocks. There cannot be a more delightful prospect, than from this castle. Here lived James Earl of Arran, a very promising young nobleman, eldest son of the Duke of Chastleherault; but falling in love with the beautiful Queen Mary, and being unsuccessful in his addresses, he became weak and unstable, and ever after appeared very much disconcerted. This castle was demolished by order of King and council in the year 1579. It must have given the well-disposed Earl a great shock, and perhaps it was the occasion of his death: and indeed he did not long survive it. He was dead before 1581†. From the family of Hamilton, Craignethan, and some grounds around it, came to the Hays, descended of the family of Tweeddale; and from the Hays, the Duke of Douglas purchased them.

Nigh Craignethan, on a rising ground to the north-west, is the village of Draffen or Dreffin, called of old, according to some antiquaries, *Druidum fanum*, but now by corruption *Draffen* or *Dreffin*. It was probably one of the chief seats of the Druids, a very ancient order of priests in Scotland, noted for virtue, justice, good sense, and a venerable and decent deportment; for they always chose high and conspicuous places, where they had a clear air, and a most extensive view ‖.

The prevailing surnames in Lesmahagow, are the *Hamiltons* and *Weirs*.

The former are descended of the family of Hamilton, who have been patrons and titulars of the tithes since the year 1623. They have a far larger share of valuation in the parish than any other heritor or proprietor. Before them the patronage and tithes belonged to the family of Roxsburgh, one of whose titles is *Lord Lesmahagow*.

The heritor or proprietor next to the family of Hamilton, is Weir of Blackwood. *Radulphus*, or *Ralf de Vere*, or *Weir*, and his son Thomas, are mentioned by that learned antiquary, Sir James Dalrymple, as progenitor of this family. The one flourished in the reign of King Alexander II. and the other in that of King Alexander III.; so that the family must have subsisted for more than five hundred years *. Their wealth and lustre were conspicuous. They had vast possessions in land. They are said to have been patrons of St Mary's church in Lesmahagow; at least we find, that Thomas Weir, the eleventh generation, according to Sir Robert Douglas, of the family of Blackwood, gave a presentation to Sir George Kerr to be chaplain there May 7. 1539. The estate descended twice to an heiress. The first was married to William Laurie, Esq; who had the appellation of *Tutor of Blackwood*; and the other to the Hon. Charles Hope of Craigiehall, second son of Charles first Earl of Hopetoun; and both had issue. But still the arms and name of *Weir of Blackwood* are kept up. The lineal male representative of the family is, George Weir of Birkwood, though divested of the estate; which happened, as is said, in this manner. Many generations ago, the eldest son of the family was a weak unpromising gentleman, whilst he had a brother who was brisk, lively, and courageous. On this account the father conceived a vast regard and affection for the latter, and left him almost his whole estate: the other was allowed to possess only the lands of Birkwood, the mansion-house of the family, the ruins of which still appear, and some other inconsiderable possessions.

At Blackwood of old there was an extensive wood, and from this it had its name, though at present scarcely any traces of it remain.

Although the family of Weir of Blackwood was generally reputed chief, yet the family of Weir of Stonebyres, very ancient too, who possessed, and still do, a very considerable barony in the parish, often contended for it, with great bravery and intrepidity. From thence there ensued the most dreadful heats and animosities,

* Buch. hist. p. 371.

† Pp spottiswoode's history.

‖ Dr Robert Henry's history.

* Douglas's baronage, p. 154.

mosities, and much bloodshed and devastation. And for many ages, intermarriages, the closest and most intimate connections, and the mediations of friends, could not entirely put an end to them, but, like embers covered up, they often broke out with redoubled fury. The present lineal male representative of this brave family, is Captain John Weir.

At Stonebyres, the seat of the family, and from whence it derives its title, there is a remarkable cataract, or fall of water, and a spacious wood, bounded on one side by the pleasant river Clyde, consisting of different kinds of timber, which yields above 100l. Sterling per ann.

Not far from Stonebyres, and within the precincts of its barony, is Gilbank, much frequented by that celebrated hero and patriot Sir William Wallace of Ellerslie. This he made his head-quarters, when he resorted to Cartlanecraigs, and whilst he had divers bloody rencounters with the English at Lanerk*. Here Auch-inlect of that Ilk, his faithful attendant, and who had been so serviceable to him on many occasions, had his residence. And from a farm-house named *Auch-inlect*, in the neighbourhood, it is said, he took his surname and title, where are still to be seen a pair of very large oaken ceils or rafters, which, according to common report and tradition, were erected by his great and renowned friend Sir William Wallace.

At some distance from the barony of Stonebyres, and in the south-eastern boundary of the parish, there is a very romantic cave in a rock, which still bears the name of *Wallace's cave*, frequently visited by the curious.

Besides the baronies of Blackwood and Stonebyres, in the parish of Lesmahagow, there are the baronies of Corhouse, and Castlehill, or Fockerton.

The barony of Corhouse, of old belonged to the Banatynes, an ancient family, of late to the Somervilles, the lineal male representatives of the Somervilles of Cambusnethan, and at present to a gentleman of the surname of *Dickson*.

Hard by Corhouse are two cataracts, or falls of water. One of which is of great height, and very stupendous. It is heard at a great distance; and from the noise it makes, country-people form their prognostications of the weather. The old house of Corhouse stood so near it, that often the tables, and every thing upon them, were made to shake.

The barony of Castlehill, or Fockerton, appertained anciently to the Menzieses, next to the Kennedies of Auchtefardle, and last of all to the family of Douglas, who still possess it.

There were two other heritors of considerable rank and fortune, though their possessions never obtained the denomination of baronies, viz. Lockhart of Birkhill, a cadet of Lockhart of Lee; and Hamilton of Hill, who was for many years commissary of Lanerk, descended of Raploch, and, after the demise of the late Major Hamilton of Raploch, the lineal male representative of that ancient family. Their lands are now inherited by others, who stood not in any relation to them, nor had the least connection with them.

This change of proprietors in Lesmahagow, brings readily to our remembrance what Horace says in the person of Ofellus, lib. 2. sat. 2. lin. 129. & seqq.

Nam propriæ telluris herum natura neque illum,
Nec me, nec quenquam statuit. ———
Nunc ager Umbreni sub nomine, nuper Ofelli
Dictus, erit nulli proprius; sed cedet in usum
Nunc mihi, nunc alii. ———

And let it be observed, that as the parish of Lesmahagow is large and extensive, so it is populous, containing near three thousand examinable persons; and of all that number, there are not above a dozen of sectaries, or nonconformists. The first minister here after the Reformation was Mr Robert Leslie. He had only an hundred merks per ann. He died before the year 1571. To him succeeded Mr David Cuningham, who had his stipend, whatever it was, paid him by the Earl of Glencairn formerly mentioned, but on what account I know not. Besides, he had forty merks allowed him yearly for the service he performed at Lanerk*. The cure was served by two ministers long before the Restoration. In what manner they had their stipends paid, I have not been informed. But since the Revolution, the second minister had a stipend settled upon him by the bounty of Anne Duchess of Hamilton, commonly called *the Good Duchess*, eldest daughter of James first Duke of Hamilton. This is but one in-

* History of Sir William Wallace, by Blind Hary, Edin. 1758.

* Register of the ministers stipends before the year 1574, a manuscript in the advocates library, Edinburgh.

stance

ſtance I have mentioned, of her piety and generoſity. It would be impoſſible to enumerate them all. On this account her memory will be revered, not only in Leſmahagow, where ſhe was ſo well known, but by all acquainted with her character, as long as a ſenſe of virtue and religion remain in the world.

SIR, *January* 2. 1773.

I AM ſorry to ſee ſome of your correſpondents ſpend their time in ſtraining at wit concerning womens curioſity, &c. which, at beſt, may ſerve to give a hearty laugh to ſome riſible girls, without making them one bit the wiſer; whereas a few admonitions how to conduct themſelves ſo as to be accompliſhed and delightful wives, would be much more uſeful; or if to remain unmarried, that they would attain ſuch qualifications as to make them agreeable members of any family where they may happen to reſide, and by a proper attention to œconomy, might, in the poſſeſſion of a ſmall fortune, ſecure that independency, which all endued with a juſt way of thinking would be ambitious to procure. Theſe matters properly canvaſſed might be of ſingular uſe; and although an extenſive ſubject, might be introduced by degrees, for the good of the fair ſex, who ſtand in need of a monitor of ſenſe, complacence, and of ſpirit, to expoſe the reigning foibles, and, if poſſible, bring back to rational reflection the moſt amiable part of the creation. The ladies having it ſo unqueſtionably in their power to ſweeten human life, can there be greater felicity to any man that loves domeſtic tranquillity, than the certain poſſeſſion of a woman of merit for his wife, who ſtudies his intereſt, and promotes his happineſs; who, by her neatneſs in perſon, and in family-order, her exertion and knowledge in houſekeeping, makes his life comfortable, and every year adds increaſe to his funds? Some hints upon this ſubject, and ſome models of amiable characters ſpecified; alſo, ſome reaſons alledged why ſome women fail in making diſtinguiſhed wives, proceeding from reſerve in the huſband as to the ſituation of his finances, &c.; beſides, in how far boarding-ſchool education tends to pervert the mind of many young ladies, and by giving them a turn to dreſs, ſecrecy, and public entertainments, renders them devoid of ſentiment, and gives an unhappy bias, that, in moſt inſtances, proves inſurmountable: theſe are the outlines of a copious ſubject, which, if properly diſcuſſed, may afford matter for various eſſays, in which I wiſh to be aſſiſted by any that incline to illuſtrate the articles mentioned; hoping to warn againſt thoſe evils that ſo often overturn domeſtic happineſs, and involve thoſe concerned in diſcord and in ruin. —— *I am, &c.*

Cal. Merc. R. S.

SIR, *January* 18.

The following letter is a copy, allowed by a lady to be ſent to publiſh, if thought proper, in order to illuſtrate the truth of the preceding ſhort eſſay. The letter has loſt conſiderably in its original ſpirit, by the ſuppreſſion of ſome names, and remarks, not ſo fit for the preſs; and, beſides, may have other errors, owing to hurry in taking the copy under ſuch limitations. P. C.

My dear M——

YOU would moſt naturally expect, that I ſhould have communicated the cauſe of our ſudden departure from town at this ſeaſon of the year. It was not want of confidence; our long friendſhip intitles you to know every intereſting circumſtance that belongs to me. The continual hurry I was kept in, was the chief cauſe of my ſeeming neglect. You know the principal reaſon that made me reſide ſo long in Edinburgh, was to obtain a liberal education for my daughters, whoſe portions I conſidered as abundantly genteel to ſupport every expence this expedition might occaſion: and I rather choſe to conduct this myſelf, than to ſend them, as in common with many of our neighbours, into boarding-ſchools; becauſe I have always dreaded having my children ſubjected to ſo ſtrict rules as might lead them into arts and contrivance, in order to elude thoſe rules having their full effect. Beſides that, in the very beſt of theſe houſes, young ladies learn nothing of houſewifery: their hours are all devoted to French, dancing, muſic, and a few trivial ornaments, gumflowers, or embroidery; their manner is reduced to a ſyſtem of common-place civility, beyond which they cannot go; they are all upon one plan as to ſilence, although of ever ſo talkative a ſtrain; they learn no ſort ſo ſentiment; when they are invited abroad upon a viſit, they are for moſt part almoſt mutes. But in all this, one cannot determine their real character; there is a veil which is not taken off, until they are ſome time free of this reſtraint;

ſtraint; and then, ten to one, theſe Miſſes talk abundantly, although to very little purpoſe. In my opinion, the talk of a filly girl, whoſe chief topics are dreſs, fine equipages, balls, public walks, reviews of this and t'other regiment; but above all, thoſe warm and exceſſive encomiums upon the players, and what gentlemen viſited their box while in the playhouſe, and a number of ſuch matters, treated as of the moſt important kind, argues either great defect in the underſtanding, or in the ſtyle of education. Indeed, when Miſſes get an affectation of ſentiment, and ſaying fine things with a dictatorial air, it is equally, if not more diſagreeable. To ſay truth, education is a very arduous undertaking at preſent. I love to indulge, rather than check, the ſpirit that prevails in my girls; but I obſerve in many of their companions, ſuch liberty allowed as amazes me; walking conſtantly about; ſtarting in upon us forenoon and afternoon; ſettling appointments of themſelves; dreſſing two or three times a-day; in ſhort, under no controul; ſeldom compoſed one hour to a ſeat, except when under the barber's hands, where by far too great a proportion of time is ſacrificed. But it is impoſſible to make a detail of one half of my objections to the preſent mode of educating girls: but ſo much for the cauſe of my alarm and change of meaſures. I foreſaw that my daughters portions, were they allowed to imbibe theſe notions, would, inſtead of affluence, ſcarce afford them neceſſaries; for they had no time to execute their own cloaths. Is it not very ſtrange, that many a girl that has not the half of their portion, is bred totally idle, or at beſt only capable of making up a few trifling ornaments? I think it very extraordinary, that parents do not require their children to make their ſhifts, and plain linen, and their millinery articles that are for common uſe. Were that the caſe, the milliners would be much better off than in the preſent method, as there would be fewer extravagant accounts run up of a ſudden, and left for years unpaid. My deſire to preſerve my children independent, is my reaſon of retiring ſome time; — that I may regulate and confirm their minds in what is truly eſtimable, oppoſed to what is otherwiſe; and that I may, if poſſible, give them that elevation of ſentiment, as to dread nothing more than taking on fine cloaths faſter than their funds can extend to extinguiſh; that I may ſet ſome proper models of well-bred ladies before them, who, even in the plaineſt dreſs, always command reſpect and attention from all around them; — to ſhew them that tawdry finery ought to be avoided, while neatneſs and cleanneſs are always becoming; — that elegance implies much more than beauty, becauſe elegance ariſes in great meaſure from the harmony of the mind, and eaſe of behaviour; whereas beauty may attend the moſt aukward hoyden, without any effect in pleaſing; — that no behaviour can ever pleaſe, or be in the ſmalleſt degree agreeable, where inattention prevails; — to illuſtrate this obſervation, mark out ſuch young ladies as, upon inquiring how one does, are carried off to ſomething elſe, before the anſwer can poſſibly be given; — to point out to their notice ſome amiable young girls, who have the moſt delightful manner, without pedantry or inattention; who are always patterns of neatneſs in dreſs, without appearing to ſtudy it. Shall let you know my ſucceſs, and ever am, &c.

To the author of the SCOTS MAGAZINE.

SIR, *Paiſley* 1773.

IT is a common and juſt obſervation, that our pleaſures and pains are much heightened by reflecting upon paſt ſcenes. The man who has never been ſick, can ſcarce ſet a juſt value upon health; nor can he who was never in danger, have an adequate idea of the pleaſure and ſatisfaction which one feels on an eſcape from ſome impending misfortune. —— I was led into this train of thinking, by reading a letter which I received ſeveral years ago from a friend who had taken a paſſage to London. I have tranſcribed a few paragraphs from it; which, with what I now write, you may publiſh, if you think proper.

"We got into the mouth of the river on Sunday night; when it blew ſo hard from the north-weſt, that the veſſel was forcibly driven towards the Kentiſh ſhore. About ſix o'clock the ſtorm became more violent than ever, with heavy flying ſhowers, and I think the greateſt flaſhes of lightning I have ever ſeen. The ſhip heeled ſo much, that there was no ſtanding upon deck, and we expected every moment to be put on ſhore. About ſeven we run aground upon a ſand-bank; and as it was long paſt high water, had the uncomfortable proſpect of lying there,

if

if the veſſel kept together, till next tide.

Figure to yourſelf a little of the horror of this ſcene: — Caſks, and tables, and cheſts, rolling from ſide to ſide below decks, and the paſſengers tumbling over one another; — the wind making a dreadful howling noiſe in the rigging above; — the ſailors ſwearing, and calling to one another, — now running, then falling, and the ſea breaking over the veſſel! — When we had been in this ſituation for about half an hour, we happily got clear of the bank; and the ſtorm abating, and the wind ſhifting to the north-north-eaſt, we got up within a few miles of Graveſend, where we came to anchor. This morning we got up to the wharf. — You may believe I was glad to have my foot once more upon *terra firma*; and could not, without aſtoniſhment, obſerve, how little the ſhip's crew thought of all this danger and diſtreſs, an hour after the ſtorm abated.

As I lodge near St Paul's, I ſtept into the choir at evening-prayer. — The grandeur and ſolemnity of the place, ſtrikes one exceedingly, and diſpoſes the mind for devotion. — I believe I was not the leſs devout, from the recollection of the ſcene above deſcribed. The prayers were read by a middle-aged gentleman, in a very decent and becoming manner; and I know not that ever I was ſo ſenſible of the importance and propriety of the collect in the evening-ſervice, which begins, "Lighten our darkneſs, we beſeech thee, O Lord!" &c. — The *real perils* and *dangers* of the laſt night were freſh enough in my mind, to convince me of the wiſdom of praying to be protected from the *poſſible dangers* of this.

How ſhall I deſcribe the muſic! — how ſhall I give you any tolerable idea of the effect it had upon my mind! — Inſtead of the horrid diſcordant noiſe of laſt night, inſtead of hearing rational beings affronting their maker in the very hour of danger, all here was peace, and harmony, and delight. — A number of fine voices in perfect uniſon, accompanied with a noble organ, praiſed the Moſt High in the ſublime language of holy writ. — I had often and often been preſent at the ſame ſolemn ſervice, but never found myſelf ſo much affected, ſo much tranſported. — In one word, I no longer regretted the ſtorm, which had ſo much improved my reliſh for harmony and devotion." — Thus far my friend.

Were one in the humour of it, many uſeful reflections might be drawn from this propenſity of our nature, to enjoy pleaſure with a higher reliſh, after we have been in diſtreſs. Hence it is evident, that phyſical evils are not always what they at firſt ſight appear to be, but may be counterbalanced by the good and happineſs which they produce. Hence the objection againſt Providence, for the unequal diſtribution of worldly happineſs, appears to be ill-founded: While the favourites of Fortune are baſking in the warm ſun of Proſperity, they often nauſeate their pleaſures; they become dull and liſtleſs; and in ſpight of their contempt for thoſe in the lower ſpheres of life, muſt often envy their enjoyments: ſatiated with a ſuperabundance of preſent good things, they ſigh for pleaſures which they can never taſte; the undiſturbed tranquillity of mind, the healthful countenance, and the unbroken reſt of the happy peaſant. And hence a concluſion may be drawn extremely comfortable to the bulk of mankind: as diſtreſſes and diſappointments in this world, naturally lead us to turn our eyes to the next; ſo they will probably give a reliſh to our enjoyments in a future ſtate. There we ſhall recollect with pleaſure every circumſtance which had a tendency to keep us humble and innocent; whatever tended to keep up a ſenſe of our dependence upon God. Nor can we there, when we ſhall ſee things as they really are, poſſibly regret our having fallen ſhort in the acquiſition of riches, or honours, or civil diſtinctions, which will then appear to have been by no means worth the attention now paid to them.

I am, &c. F. D.

Extract of a letter from Halle, Nov. 22.

A Chymiſt at our academy has lately made an experiment of converting ſolid copper into a fluid ſtate, which is the ſtrongeſt poiſon ever known before. If this poiſon only comes into the lips, even though the teeth are cloſed together, the perſon muſt die, its effect being incurable. Many experiments have been made on ſeveral animals, and they were found twenty-four hours after their death, to be in a full fermentation, and their bodies covered with foam. He further demonſtrates, that the uſe of copper veſſels have been the cauſe of the death of ſeveral perſons taken off ſuddenly, which was attributed to an apoplexy, but the poiſon proceeded from the copper.

M

Mr URBAN, *December* 1772.

I Send you the following letter, written by a gentleman who is perfectly well acquainted with the conſtitution of New England; though the latter part of it, about tithes, is no way practicable, or even to be thought of, under ours.

"I underſtand from the public papers, that in the debates on the bill for relieving the diſſenters in the point of ſubſcription to the church-articles [xxxiv. 355.], ſundry reflections were thrown out againſt that people, importing, "That they themſelves are of a perſecuting, intolerant ſpirit; for that when they had here the ſuperiority, they perſecuted the church; and ſtill perſecute it in America, where they compel its members to pay taxes for maintaining the Preſbyterian or Independent worſhip, and at the ſame time refuſe them a toleration in the full exerciſe of their religion by the adminiſtration of a Biſhop."

If we look back into hiſtory for the character of preſent ſects in Chriſtianity, we ſhall find few that have not in their turns been perſecutors, and complainers of perſecution. The primitive Chriſtians thought perſecution extremely wrong in the Pagans, but practiſed it on one another. The firſt Proteſtants of the church of England blamed perſecution in the Roman church, but practiſed it againſt the Puritans. Theſe found it wrong in the Biſhops, but fell into the ſame practice themſelves both here and in New England. To account for this, we ſhould remember, that the doctrine of toleration was not then known, or had not prevailed in the world. Perſecution was therefore not ſo much the fault of the ſect as of the times. It was not in thoſe days deemed wrong in itſelf. The general opinion was only, that thoſe who are in error ought not to perſecute the truth: but the poſſeſſors of truth were in the right to perſecute error, in order to deſtroy it. Thus every ſect believing itſelf poſſeſſed of all truth, and that every tenet differing from theirs was error, conceived, that when the power was in their hands, perſecution was a duty required of them by that God whom they ſuppoſe to be offended with hereſy.—By degrees, more moderate and more modeſt ſentiments have taken place in the Chriſtian world; and among Proteſtants particularly all diſclaim perſecution, none vindicate it, and few practiſe it. We ſhould, then, ceaſe to reproach each other with what was done by our anceſtors, but judge of the preſent character of ſects or churches by their preſent conduct only.

Now to determine on the juſtice of this charge againſt the preſent Diſſenters, particularly thoſe in America, let us conſider the following facts. They went from England to eſtabliſh a new country for themſelves, at their own expence, where they might enjoy the free exerciſe of religion in their own way. When they had purchaſed the territory of the natives, they granted the lands out in townſhips, requiring for it neither purchaſe-money nor quitrent; but this condition only to be complied with, That the freeholders ſhould for ever ſupport a goſpel-miniſter, (meaning probably one of the then governing ſects), and a free-ſchool, within the townſhip. Thus, what is commonly called *Preſbyterianiſm* became the eſtabliſhed religion of that country. All went on well in this way while the ſame religious opinions were general, the ſupport of miniſter and ſchool being raiſed by a proportionate tax on the lands. But, in proceſs of time, ſome becoming Quakers, ſome Baptiſts, and, of late years, ſome returning to the church of England, (through the laudable endeavours of, and a proper application of their funds by, the ſociety for propagating the goſpel), objections were made to the payment of a tax appropriated to the ſupport of a church they diſapproved and had forſaken. The civil magiſtrates, however, continued for a time to collect and apply the tax according to the original laws, which remained in force; and they did it the more freely, as thinking it juſt and equitable, that the holders of lands ſhould pay what was contracted to be paid when they were granted, as the only conſideration for the grant, and what had been conſidered by all ſubſequent purchaſers as a perpetual incumbrance on the eſtate, bought therefore at a proportionably cheaper rate; a payment which it was thought no honeſt man ought to avoid under the pretence of his having changed his religious perſuaſion. And this, I ſuppoſe, is one of the beſt grounds of demanding tithes of Diſſenters now in England. But the practice being clamoured againſt by the Epiſcopalians as perſecution, the legiſlature of the province of the Maſſachuſets bay, near thirty years ſince, paſſed an act for their relief; requiring indeed the tax to be paid as uſual, but directing that the ſeveral ſums

levied from members of the church of England, ſhould be paid over to the miniſter of that church with whom ſuch members uſually attended divine worſhip; which miniſter had power given him to receive, and on occaſion to recover the ſame by law.

It ſeems that legiſlature conſidered the end of the tax was, to ſecure and improve the morals of the people, and promote their happineſs, by ſupporting among them the public worſhip of God, and the preaching of the goſpel; that where particular people fancied a particular mode, that mode might probably therefore be of moſt uſe to thoſe people; and that, if the good was done, it was not ſo material in what mode, or by whom, it was done. The conſideration, that their brethren the Diſſenters in England were ſtill compelled to pay tithes to the clergy of the church, had not weight enough with the legiſlature to prevent this moderate act; which ſtill continues in full force, and I hope no uncharitable conduct of the church towards the Diſſenters will ever provoke them to repeal it.

With regard to a biſhop, I know not upon what ground the Diſſenters either here or in America, are charged with refuſing the benefit of ſuch an officer to the church in that country. Here they ſeem to have naturally no concern in the affair: There they have no power to prevent it, if government ſhould think fit to ſend one. They would probably diſlike, indeed, to ſee an order of men eſtabliſhed among them, from whoſe perſecutions their fathers fled into that wilderneſs, and whoſe future domination they may poſſibly fear, not knowing that their natures are changed. But the non-appointment of biſhops for America ſeems to ariſe from another quarter. The ſame wiſdom of government, probably, that prevents the ſitting of convocations, and forbids, by *nol. proſequi's*, the proſecution of Diſſenters for non-ſubſcription, avoids eſtabliſhing biſhops where the minds of people are not yet prepared to receive them cordially, leſt the public peace ſhould be endangered,

And now let us ſee how this *perſecution-account* ſtands between the parties.

In New-England, where the legiſlative bodies are almoſt to a man diſſenters from the church of England

1. There is no teſt to prevent churchmen holding offices.

2. The ſons of churchmen have the full benefit of the univerſities.

3. The taxes for ſupport of public worſhip, when paid by churchmen, are given to the Epiſcopal miniſter.

In Old England,

1. Diſſenters are excluded from all offices of profit and honour.

2. The benefits of education in the univerſities are appropriated to the ſons of churchmen.

3. The clergy of the Diſſenters receive none of the tithes paid by their people, who muſt be at the additional charge of maintaining their own ſeparate worſhip.

But it is ſaid, The diſſenters of America *oppoſe* the introduction of a biſhop.

In fact, it is not alone the Diſſenters that give the oppoſition, (if *not encouraging* muſt be termed *oppoſing*), but the laity in general diſlike the project, and ſome even of the clergy. The inhabitants of Virginia are almoſt all Epiſcopalians. The church is fully eſtabliſhed there, and the council and general aſſembly are perhaps to a man its members; yet when lately, at a meeting of the clergy, a reſolution was taken to apply for a biſhop, againſt which ſeveral however proteſted, the aſſembly of the province, at their next meeting, expreſſed their diſapprobation of the thing in the ſtrongeſt manner, by unanimouſly ordering the thanks of the houſe to the proteſtors [xxxiii. 489, 90.]: for many of the American laity of the church think it ſome advantage, whether their own young men come to England for ordination, and improve themſelves at the ſame time by converſation with the learned here, or the congregations are ſupplied by Engliſhmen, who have had the benefit of education in Engliſh univerſities, and are ordained before they come abroad. They do not, therefore, ſee the neceſſity of a biſhop merely for ordination. And confirmation is among them deemed a ceremony of no very great importance; ſince few ſeek it in England, where biſhops are in plenty. Theſe ſentiments prevail with many churchmen there, not to promote a deſign which they think muſt ſooner or later ſaddle them with great expences to ſupport it. As to the Diſſenters, their minds might probably be more conciliated to the meaſure, if the biſhops here ſhould, in their wiſdom and goodneſs, think fit to ſet their ſacred character in a more friendly light, by dropping their oppoſition to the Diſſenters

ers application for relief in ſubſcription, and declaring their willingneſs that Diſſenters ſhould be capable of offices, enjoy the benefit of education in the univerſities, and the privilege of appropriating their tithes to the ſupport of their own clergy. In all theſe points of toleration, they appear far behind the preſent Diſſenters of New England; and it may ſeem to ſome a ſtep below the dignity of biſhops, to follow the example of ſuch inferiors. I do not, however, deſpair of their doing it ſome time or other, ſince nothing of the kind is too hard for true Chriſtian humility. I am, &c.

A New-England Man.

Mr URBAN, *January* 1773.

AS the propriety of ſubſcription to articles of religion is at preſent a matter of debate in this nation, permit me to lay before the public, through the channel of your magazine, a few reflections on this ſubject.

It appears from the hiſtory of the Chriſtian church, given us in the *Acts of the Apoſtles*, that no adult perſon was received into her communion without a declaration of his hearty conſent to the leading doctrines delivered by the apoſtles, and firſt teachers of Chriſtianity. "If thou believeſt with all thine heart," ſaid Philip to the Eunuch, "thou mayſt be baptized," Acts viii. 37. Much leſs was any one admitted to the office of Chriſtian paſtor, without ſuch a proof, at leaſt, of his truly embracing the doctrines he was to deliver to others. Thus the apoſtolic injunction runs reſpecting ordination: "The things that thou haſt heard of me among many witneſſes, the ſame commit thou to faithful men, who ſhall be able to teach others alſo," 2 Tim. ii. 2. And particular care was taken, that none ſhould be admitted into the miniſtry, but thoſe who "held faſt the faithful word, as they had been taught, that they might be able by ſound doctrine to convince the gainſayers," Titus i. 9.

When the books of the New Teſtament were all collected, and joined to the ſcriptures of the Old Teſtament, this ſacred code contained the articles to which every candidate for the miniſtry was to *ſubſcribe*, (that is, to teſtify his aſſent unto, in the ſtrongeſt manner), before he could be admitted to teach others.

So far is plain, and, I apprehend, agreeable to the ſentiments of all the profeſſors of Chriſtianity. But here it may be aſked, Why is not this ſimple apoſtolic method ſtill adhered to? Why are candidates for the miniſtry now required to ſubſcribe to human formularies, and that by thoſe who acknowledge the Bible to contain a perfect rule of faith and practice? The reaſon of ſuch conduct appears to me clearly deducible from the very principles upon which the objection is founded.

To make good my deduction, I ſhall only deſire this plain poſition to be granted: That words, being only the ſigns of our ideas, are nothing independent of their meaning. This being allowed, it will follow, that when aſſent is required to any form of words, it is to the meaning which thoſe words convey, and not to the words conſidered in themſelves. And, therefore, when we ſpeak of ſubſcribing to the holy ſcriptures, we mean (if we mean any thing) that ſuch ſubſcription ſhould be made, or aſſent teſtified, to the *doctrines* contained in the ſcriptures, or the *meaning* which the *words* of ſcripture were deſigned to convey.

While the ſenſe of ſcripture was fixed by the interpretation of thoſe inſpired perſons who were employed in writing it, the words of ſcripture conveyed the ſame ideas to all the ſincere members of the Chriſtian church: When any perſon, under theſe circumſtances, teſtified his aſſent to the *words* of ſcripture, it is plain, that he aſſented to their *true meaning*; and, in this caſe, any other *confeſſion of faith* than the ſacred text was unneceſſary.

But let us ſuppoſe, that while the doctrine of the Chriſtian church was uniform, and the whole body of miniſters held the words of ſcripture in their true ſenſe, that one ſhould have offered himſelf as a candidate for the miniſtry, to whom the words of ſcripture conveyed ideas different from thoſe they conveyed to the church; what muſt have been done in ſuch a caſe? The Chriſtian paſtors were bound to require ſubſcription to the ſcriptures; for this, we have ſeen, was injoined as abſolutely neceſſary; but in the caſe now ſtated, a ſubſcription to the *words* of ſcripture would not have been a ſubſcription to the *ſcriptures themſelves*; becauſe the words did not convey to this candidate their *true meaning*: ſuch a perſon, in ſubſcribing, it is evident, muſt either have teſtified his aſſent to ſomething which was not ſcripture, or to

words without meaning; which is, in effect, to nothing. The Chriſtian paſtors, in this caſe, would have been under the neceſſity of *explaining* the ſcriptures to ſuch an one; that is, of conveying the meaning of ſcripture to him in their own words, and then of requiring his aſſent to the ſcripture thus explained; or to their own words uſed as explanatory, which amount to the ſame thing. And whenever the *words* of ſcripture convey different and oppoſite ideas, to the perſons whoſe duty it is to require ſubſcription, and to thoſe who are injoined to ſubſcribe, one of theſe methods muſt be uſed, if the abſurdity of requiring ſubſcription to unmeaning words is to be avoided.

Now that the profeſſors of Chriſtianity are divided in their interpretation of the New Teſtament, it is the ſame thing (with regard to the matter of ſubſcription) as if there were more than one New Teſtament; and each party muſt require ſubſcription to their formulary, upon the ſame principle as ſubſcription was required to the words of the apoſtles only, whilſt the interpretation of thoſe words was uniform. To ſuppoſe the contrary, is to imagine that words are ſomething beſides the ſigns of our ideas; ſomething independent of the meaning they convey. If, then, it is the duty of any Chriſtian church to require ſubſcription to the Bible of thoſe who are candidates for the miniſtry; it is their duty to require this ſubſcription to the ſenſe in which they underſtand the Bible; for theſe are not properly two things with reſpect to any church, but are, in effect, the ſame.

Thus the neceſſity of human formularies may be deduced from the plaineſt principles of Chriſtianity and common ſenſe: and he muſt not have thoroughly conſidered this matter, who eſteems them as impoſitions upon the conſciences of mankind, when they are deſigned merely to interpret the Chriſtian's only rule of faith, the Bible.

Before I conclude theſe obſervations, give me leave to make a remark or two upon the petitions preſented to parliament the laſt ſeſſion, for relief from ſubſcription to the thirty-nine articles. That from the clergy of the eſtabliſhment, being founded upon this principle, That all human formularies are an uſurpation of the authority of Chriſt, and conſequently unlaw ul, had its foundation in a miſtake. The defence of this principle, publiſhed in their propoſals [xxxiii. 633], is full of ambiguity: for in that paper theſe two different poſitions are continually confounded: 1. That it belongs to the right of private judgement for every one to determine for himſelf what is the meaning of ſcripture; or, in other words, of what church he will be a member; which no true Proteſtant will deny: 2. That no church can require of her miniſters a ſubſcription to any human formulary, or confeſſion of faith; which is the ſame thing as to ſay, that no church can require a teſtimony of aſſent to the doctrines contained in the ſcriptures; and this is manifeſtly falſe.

The public papers inform us, that the petitioning clergy are now attempting to obtain an alteration of the articles and liturgy of the church. I cannot ſay that I wiſh them ſucceſs, (I mean with reſpect to any conſiderable alteration), becauſe I believe the preſent eſtabliſhed doctrines of the church to be agreeable to the true meaning of the holy ſcriptures: yet truth obliges me to acknowledge, that ſuch a deſign is not clogged with the abſurdities which attended the late attempt to deſtroy all ſubſcription but to the *words* of ſcripture. I am,

An Impartial Member of the Church of England.

SIR, *January* 1773.

I Am a country-gentleman, originally bred to the law; and finding the bar not anſwer my expectations, have retired to improve a ſmall eſtate at no great diſtance from Edinburgh. This gives me an opportunity of ſtepping into town ſometimes, and converſing with my former acquaintance: by this means I hear what paſſes; and when I return home, think of it with ſome attention.

The late bankruptcies have been alarming, and afforded matter of ſpeculation for the preſs and the public.

Politics have now taken the field; and although they are not of ſuch univerſal conſequence as the general bankruptcies, they are often the riſe of many evils, and leave ſtings behind them not eaſily cured. The moſt flouriſhing manufacturing towns in our neighbouring country, are thoſe who have no repreſentatives in parliament; and the moſt opulent and independent gentlemen, are thoſe who take no ſhare in politics. In the whole ſyſtem of this general diſeaſe, there is not any one thing that is like to be more fatal in its

its conſequences, to the ſecurity of our land-rights, and the property of this country, than the practice that has for ſome time prevailed of ſplitting valuations, and creating nominal qualifications for voting to ſerve a job. Numbers of ſenſible men, in the heat of party, have been induced to do it; but no wiſe man that ever tried it, but when he comes to think coolly, will tell you he'll never do it again, if he can but get the ſcattered parts of his eſtate reſtored and put together: and yet it is amazing, to obſerve how many are deluded into it at every return of a general election. The evil at firſt was much confined; and after a ſalutary law made a good many years ago by a great lawyer, afterwards an eminent judge, had ſettled the rules of elections on general principles, and cut off a great harveſt of litigation that preceded that ſalutary law, then it was, that my brethren of the gown ſet their invention to work to bring freſh griſt to the mill, by ſplitting of valuations, and explaining away the truſt oath. At firſt, gentlemen confined their manœuvres of ſplitting within their own families, and contented themſelves with giving fictitious votes to ſecond ſons, brothers, and other near connections; now it is gone ſo far, that the miniſters of the goſpel are made barons by theſe fictions, and ſome of them are the foremoſt to ſwallow oaths of truſt and poſſeſſion at county-meetings [xxxiv. 636.]. It is matter of regret, that the gentlemen who go to parliament, do not for their own eaſe attend to this abuſe, and procure a law to put a ſtop to it. There is no denying, that it is a more eaſy matter to deal with a few gentlemen of ſubſtantial intereſt in a county, than to run about to numbers forced in upon them, that have no other intereſt than ſo many ſheets of parchment for their territory. It has been obſerved, the neceſſary requiſite for a qualification by our conſtitution is rather too high; and if ſo, why not obtain a law to fix it at a leſs valuation? I have heard, that a worthy gentleman lately in parliament, and now a judge, did frame an act to this purpoſe, and for reſtraining all ſplittings, except in caſes of actual ſolid ſales made to onerous purchaſers; and yet, that by the partial connections of a few members with ſome Noble families who oppoſed this act, cold water was thrown upon it, and it dropped, to the ſhame of ſuch as were inſtruments in ſo doing.

There was another evil attempted at the laſt general election, which I am informed is now become more general and alarming to the gentlemen of the different counties, on whoſe free choice elections formerly depended; and that is, by the ſeveral Noble families of large eſtates in the different counties, who are otherwiſe by law diſcharged from interfering in the election of commoners, their improving this ſplitting plan, and ſplitting their whole eſtates, to overpower the private gentlemen of property in each county; ſo that in a few years we ſhall ſee applications made, not to the gentlemen of a county, but to any Noble family that has property enough within it, which, when ſplit, ſhall be ſufficient to overpower all the other gentlemen of the county: and ſo this part of our conſtitution, that was formerly in the hands of private gentlemen of property, ſhall go into the hands of a few Noble families throughout the kingdom.

It has been ſaid, Why ſhould not Noble families have the uſe of their property as well as private gentlemen? The argument is at firſt ſight ſpecious, but neither concluſive nor ſolid. This is an uſe of their property that never was intended by the conſtitution, but directly the contrary. They have by the conſtitution their own province, with which private gentlemen cannot interfere; and this uſe of their property was never dreamed of till of late, that a ſtretch for power, and the invention of lawyers, (often hurtful to the conſtitution), introduced it: and if it go on, all the counties in the kingdom will be repreſented by a ſon, a brother, or a connection of thoſe families, with no other intereſt in the county but their connection, and a few ſkins of parchment; whereas the influence of thoſe families in ſuch matters ſhould depend on different principles; their civility, hoſpitality, friendſhip, and good offices cultivated among the country gentlemen; and not the diſcharge of their weight of metal around them, in conſequence of a modern device of lawyers, ſubverſive of the conſtitution, and contrary to the genius of it.

The firſt ſtretch of this kind was made by a Noble family in one of the more northern counties of this kingdom, ſeveral years ago, when I attended the bar. A private gentleman oppoſed the family; and the county had ſpirit to ſupport him; he carried his point; and to thruſt him out

out again, the family ſplit to their garden-walls: but when the matter came to be tried, the meaſure appeared ſo ſtrong, it was in the end dropt, after a great expence incurred.

At the laſt general election, ſome of theſe ſchemes ſucceeded, and others were defeated, at a high expence. But in no inſtance was the ſpirit of a county more to be applauded, than a northern one, who have always diſcovered ſpirit in attacks of that kind upon them. When they came to underſtand, that weapons of this nature were forming againſt them, they came to an unanimous reſolution to oppoſe it, and not give a voice to any candidate who came with a created force to take away their freed m. This ſpirited reſolution, I have been informed, had the deſired effect: and according to the ſtrides which this evil has made, and the encouragement it ſometimes meets with from rotten members of the community, there is no other remedy a county can take, but a ſpirited meaſure of this kind, where they ſee their freedom attacked, till ſuch time as the law receives an alteration, which it requires, to ſupport our conſtitution. I do not mean, as if a total negative was to be put on all connections of Noble families; what I mean is, that they ſhould be made to depend on the free choice of the conſtitutional electors, and their own merit, and not on the weight of their family-property, ſuperinduced on gentlemen by a contrivance of law contrary to the conſtitution.

Theſe thoughts I have thrown together, undigeſted, without order or method, in hopes that ſome one leſs ruſted than I may take them up, and lay them in a better dreſs before his country, as this growing evil is become very ſerious.

I am, &c. A. B.

Meal-mobs on the banks of the Tay.

ON Monday, Dec. 21. a great number of people, to the amount of 3 or 400, armed with axes, ſaws, durks, cudgels, &c. roſe, in the towns of Newburgh and Abernethy, and in the night-time went to the houſe of Thomas Anderſon at Weſt Shore, Newburgh, where they inquired for Mr Donaldſon, who appears to have been a principal object of their reſentment; and upon being informed that he was not there, they obliged Anderſon to open all his lofts and cellars, to ſee if there was any grain lodged there: but finding none, they ſearched other three houſes for Mr Donaldſon, and grain of his, which they expected to find there; but found none. Next day they roſe again, and ſearched ſome houſes and lofts on the Eaſt Shore of Newburgh; but were equally unſucceſsful.—On the Friday after, they again roſe, at Newburgh, in the forenoon, to the number of 60, and forced all the boats they could find at the ſhore; with which they went over the water to Errol Shore, where there was then a veſſel loading with grain. When they landed, they endeavoured to ſtop the ſhipping of the grain, by pulling the ſacks from the ſervants that were ſhipping it; but were prevented at that time by the ſhip's crew, farmers, and farmers ſervants; when, thinking themſelves too weak, they went up to Errol, in order to perſuade the inhabitants there to join them; but in this they were unſucceſsful. Finding this ſcheme fail them, they ſent over a boat to Newburgh for a reinforcement; where ten more of their number joined them, and came over; but were all repulſed, and three of them much hurt. On Wedneſday the 30th, they again roſe at Newburgh, and unloaded moſt part of a cargo of barley that was ſhipt for London, ſpilt a good deal of it, and put the reſt into a loft, where they watered it, to prevent its being again ſhipped.

The ſame day another mob roſe at Perth, went to the ſhore, and unloaded and carried off about forty bolls of barley that was ſhipping there. The magiſtrates being informed of theſe proceedings, met, and uſed ſome meaſures to have them diſperſed; but finding theſe ineffectual, the inhabitants, being apprehenſive of the fatal conſequences that might enſue were not a ſpeedy check put to ſuch proceedings, inſiſted that a party of the military ſhould be called; which the magiſtrates at laſt conſented to; and having repaired with them to the ſhore, the mob immediately diſperſed; but by this time all the barley was carried off, except a few bolls. The ſame night they broke into and pillaged the houſes of John Scott baker, Thomas Swan, James Rentoul, David Proudfoot, and William Bonnie, and carried from thence meal, money, and every thing they could lay their hands on; and beat and bruiſed one of theſe men in a terrible manner. They likewiſe attack-

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ed a young boy, taking him for the ſon of Mr Donaldſon, who, as already obſerved, was particularly the butt of their malice; and would probably have killed him, had not they diſcovered their miſtake. In conſequence of this, the magiſtrates apprehended two of the ring-leaders of the mob; upon which a threatening letter was ſent to the Provoſt, and delivered by a woman; who was committed to priſon till ſhe ſhould diſcover from whom ſhe got the letter.

The mob roſe again on Friday, Jan. 1. [xxxiv. 692.], in order to ſet at liberty their companions, as the threatening letter had not that effect; beat off a party of the military, and obliged the Provoſt to give them up. The ſame evening being fluſhed with victory, in having gained ſo material a point, they went to the houſe of John Burt, which they broke into, and again made a ſearch for Mr Donaldſon; but he not being in town, they went out in a body, to the number of about 400, to his houſe at Elcho, at the diſtance of five miles from Perth. Mr Donaldſon, the day before, fearing his danger, had applied to the ſheriff, and got a party of ten military for his protection; but this party thinking their number too ſmall, and having only three rounds of ſhot, thought proper to retreat, on hearing the dreadful noiſe the mob made. They came in two different bodies; one attacked Mr Donaldſon's houſe, the doors and windows of which they broke open with ſmiths hammers, which they had brought with them for the purpoſe. They then broke to pieces the furniture in the houſe, no part of which eſcaped their fury, but was all demoliſhed, except three chairs and a table, and carried off a great deal of cloaths, ſhirts, &c. and every thing elſe that was portable. Mr Donaldſon and his whole family were obliged to fly for ſelf-preſervation, the mob having threatened to put them all to death if they could catch them. The other part of the mob attacked the caſtle, who ſet about breaking the doors; but the juſtice of peace, who was preſent to command the military, on their retreating, having mixed with the mob, perſuaded them not to break the doors, as he had the keys, and would let them in; which having done accordingly, they inſiſted upon deſtroying the whole grain in it, amounting to about 200 bolls; but the juſtice got them diſſuaded from it, upon aſſuring them, that he would become bound that all the grain ſhould be ſent into Perth, either to-morrow or next day; they, however, broke to pieces three cellar-doors that were locked; and both parties having by this time joined together, they held a conſultation, whether or not they ſhould burn the barn-yard, and carry off the horſes; and which they were with difficulty prevented from putting in execution by the prudent conduct of the juſtice of peace. They then ſet off in great triumph for Perth, carrying along with them the keys of the caſtle and barns; and having knocked up the ſheriff-ſubſtitute, informed him, that they had been at Elcho, where there were thouſands of bolls of grain, and inſiſted he ſhould immediately repair to the place, and drive it in to Perth, for which purpoſe they delivered the keys of the caſtle to him. The ſheriff, for his own ſafety, complied; and having come to Elcho with carts, found there was not 200 bolls in it, half of which was wheat, and the other half barley, which was immediately forwarded to Perth. Mr Donaldſon, however, before that time, had ſent off about forty bolls, in conſequence of the juſtice of peace's promiſe to the mob.

That ſame night the mob intended to have paid a viſit to Mr Blair of Balthayock, and aſked the juſtice if boats could be got to carry them over the water; but he having anſwered, that unleſs they could ſwim, he knew of no other method of conveyance for them, they laid that ſcheme aſide for another night's operations. The juſtice, hearing the threatenings which were made againſt Mr Blair, thought it proper to inform him of the danger he was in, and accordingly next day went over, and gave him that neceſſary and friendly information; upon which Mr Blair, for his own ſafety, ſent in the keys of his granaries, in which there was very little corn or meal, to the ſheriff, and begged of him that it might be made known through the town, that whatever grain or meal he had, ſhould be ſent to town on the Monday after. But, notwithſtanding, the mob that ſame night went to the houſe of Balthayock, with a piper playing before them, and demanded entrance; when, Mr Blair being abſent, the ſervants, by means of ſome drink and fair words, informing them at the ſame time, that all the grain was ſent to

Perth,

Perth, got them prevailed upon to go off without doing any harm. They then went off to the houſe of William Lauder farmer in Glencarſe, about a mile farther; but he having obſerved the ſame conduct with Mr Blair's ſervants, likewiſe eſcaped unhurt. After this, on their way home, they called at the houſe of Robert Hood, farmer at Mountblair; where they plundered his houſe, and carried off every thing that was portable; and the poor man having made ſome reſiſtance, they beat him ſeverely. Having finiſhed this night's operations, they concerted a plan for deſtroying ſeveral other gentlemen and farmers houſes the ſucceeding night; for which purpoſe they were to have been joined by a body of about eighty from Abernethy and Newburgh, who actually had croſſed the water of Earn, and were within a mile of Perth on that errand, when they heard of a troop of dragoons having arrived there, which intimidated them ſo much, that they ſtopt ſhort, and immediately returned. Theſe gentry being diſappointed ſo far, thought they could not go home without doing ſome execution; and therefore called at the farm of Balgonie, belonging to Mr Donaldſon, whoſe ſervants they obliged to ſend all the bear and ſome oat-meal which he had there for his ſervants uſe, to Abernethy, and there ſell it at a penny the peck below the market-price; then went to the houſe of Alexander Stodman at Carpow, and obliged him to ſend his barley to Newburgh, the price of which they regulated in the ſame manner. Next night the ſame rioters went to the houſe of William Arnot, farmer at Cooniehie, in Fifeſhire, whom they threatened to murder, and made a ſtrict ſearch for; but not finding him, they deſtroyed every thing in his houſe, and carried off any thing they thought valuable. His ſon very narrowly eſcaped their fury, having taken a ford, which they did not chuſe to riſk, after they had purſued him more than a mile. They then went to the houſe of Mr Boyd farmer in Balmedie ſide, and ſearched for Mr Boyd; but he having had ſome previous notice of their intentions, got out of the way; and Mrs Boyd, by giving them ſome liquor, and promiſing, that her huſband would never ſell any of his grain for the future to be ſhipped, got them away without doing any miſchief. They then went, on their way home, to the houſe of John Brown, a farmer at a mile's diſtance, who likewiſe was from home, and whoſe wife got them peaceably diſperſed in the ſame manner with the former's.

Having come on in a regular proceſſion with the mobbing at Perth, Newburgh, and Abernethy, I muſt now go back, in point of time, in order to give ſome account of thoſe which happened at Cupar, Fife, and places adjacent.—The firſt riſing at this place was on Thurſday, Dec. 24. where a number of men and women, to the amount of 400 aſſembled in the forenoon; and underſtanding that William Arnot, who deals in grain, and who is mentioned above was coming to town, they went out, and attacked him with ſtones, &c.; but ſome farmers being with him, gave him all the aſſiſtance in their power, and with much difficulty got him into the town where he was concealed and protected by the better ſort of people, notwithſtanding the threats of the mob.

On Friday, Jan. 1. part of the Cupar mob met in the evening; and on hearing that Mr Donaldſon was to ſhip a cargo of barley at Balmerino, determined to prevent it; and accordingly ſet out for that purpoſe, forcing all the lower ſort of people, in the little towns they had to paſs through, to join them, and even cutting out the webs of ſome weavers out of the looms, becauſe they refuſed. When they came to Balmerino, however, they were happily diſappointed; for Mr Donaldſon having been previouſly informed of their intentions, did not ſhip the grain. Part of the mob threatened to deſtroy Mr Stark at Balmerino, thinking him a friend of Mr Donaldſon; but the majority being of opinion that he was a good man, he eſcaped untouched.

The 7th, a great mob, to the number of 900 or 1000, aſſembled at Cupar upon the ſound of a horn; plundered ſeveral houſes of potatoes and meal; then went to the houſe of Alexander Anderſon, farmer at Seggie, about four miles diſtant, ſearched for him, threatening to kill him if they found him; but he having got out of the way, they broke every thing in his houſe, carrying off thoſe things which beſt ſuited their purpoſe.

I now proceed to give an account of the riſings at Dundee, and places adjacent. — On the night of Jan. 5. the mob pillaged the houſe of a poor man in the neighbourhood of Dundee, who was

no dealer in victual, and carried away, not only the whole meal he had for amily-uſe, but ſheets, blankets, cloaths, and every piece of furniture that would carry. On this, it was found neceſſary, that the inhabitants of the town ſhould arm in defence of their property, until the arrival of the military. And accordingly, on Wedneſday afternoon, a guard of the merchants and corporations, properly armed, mounted at the council-chamber, and patrolled the ſtreets of the town and ſuburbs the whole night; by which means the mob was prevented from aſſembling, and all was quiet, that and the ſubſequent night. But on Friday, a croud of people gathered together in the market-place, and by ſome attempts to carry away meal that was brought there for ſale, and to ſeize a man that was obnoxious to them, and who took ſhelter in the tolbooth, gave ſufficient reaſon to apprehend they would meet again in the evening. And ſo indeed it happened: for about five o'clock after noon, a great number of men and women aſſembled before the tolbooth, and demanded the man who had there ſheltered himſelf from their fury in the forenoon, ſhould be delivered up to them. This not being complied with, they attempted to break the town-houſe gate; but deſiſted, on underſtanding that the guard (which was that night doubled) was aſſembling. Another body of the mob had by this time broke into the church-ſteeple, and rung the great bell; which brought people from all quarters to the church-yard; whence, after procuring a drum, they marched in a noiſy and tumultuous manner to the houſe of Mylneſield, where they broke and demoliſhed every thing of furniture and finiſhing about the houſe; and then a great body retreated, loaded, many of them, with the ſpoils. By this time a very great body of Carſe farmers and their ſervants, armed with muſkets, cutlaſſes, pitchforks, &c. had been called out by the ringing of the ſeveral pariſh-bells, and were drawn up in the neighbourhood of Mylneſield; but as it was ſaid the mob had many of them fire-arms, they heſitated about approaching, till they were joined by Colonel D —, who, on hearing the bells, had moſt generouſly left his own houſe, with only one ſervant, to give his advice and aſſiſtance in quieting theſe diſorders. He prevailed with the Carſe folks to lay aſide their muſkets, and led them directly on to the houſe of Mylneſield, where was a part of the mob ſtill remaining; of which, after a very feeble reſiſtance, he took a good many priſoners, and diſperſed the reſt. This gentleman's ſpirited behaviour in the ſervice he has now done the public, by effectually breaking the mob, can be equalled only by the humanity and tenderneſs ſhown to the poor miſguided people, of which it moſtly conſiſted, in firſt getting the farmers to lay aſide fire-arms, the uſe of which would have been very fatal; and after breaking the mob, in preventing, as much as one man could, the fury of the Carſe ſervants, male and female, from breaking out on the poor creatures of priſoners, and the reſt of the routed and diſperſed rioters. — Upon an expreſs coming from Mylneſield, informing that the mob was put to flight, the magiſtrate who commanded the guard, marched them, to the number of 130 effective men, to the Weſt port, in order to prevent them ſo entering the town again in a body: but none appeared, except a few ſtragglers, who were taken into cuſtody, and examined, and afterwards diſmiſſed, as they appeared only to have gone there from an idle and ill timed curioſity.

Before concluding I muſt obſerve, that the want of proviſions cannot, with any degree of juſtice, be pleaded as an excuſe for theſe riots; as there was grain of all kinds in market every day, and the prices all this ſeaſon as follows, viz. oat-meal from 10d. halfpenny to 12d. per peck, barley and peaſe-meal from 7d. to 8d. and wheat from 18s. to 20s. per boll. It may likewiſe be worthy obſervation, that there is exported from Tay every year, on an average, from 24 to 30,000 bolls of wheat and barley, and plenty left behind to ſerve the demands of the country; and, in place of this quantity ſhipped off, there is from 30 to 36,000 bolls of oats and oat-meal imported, moſtly by the ſame merchants who ſhip off the barley and wheat. —— *I am, &c.*

Cal. Merc. COMMUNICATIVE.

Seventeen of the rioters concerned in the meal mobs of which an account is given above, were taken up, and put into the priſon of Dundee; whence they were conveyed to Edinburgh, bound in carts, under a ſtrong guard of military; where they arrived on Sunday night, the 10th of January, and were lodged in the priſon of that city.

Perth-county Reſolutions.

At PERTH, the 19th day of January, 1773. At a meeting of the Juſtices of Peace, and of the Heritors of the County of Perth, convened by the Sheriff, to conſider of proper meaſures to ſecure the tranquility of the County at this time; PRESENT, the Earl of Kinnoul, Lord Ruthven, Sir William Moncrieffe of that Ilk, Bt, John Swinton, Eſq; his Majeſty's Sheriff-depute; John Craigie, Eſq; of Kilgraſton; David Smyth, Eſq; of Methven; James Keir, Eſq; of Kinmonth; Major Auguſtus Barry, of Lednock; William Mercer, Eſq; of Piteuchar; John Richardſon, Eſq; of Springfield; George Wilſon, Eſq; of Hilton; and Patrick Keir, Eſq; of Kinmonth;

John Swinton, Eſq; his Majeſty's Sheriff-depute, in the chair.

WHereas, on pretence of the ſcarcity of meal, great numbers of evil-diſpoſed perſons have, at different times, rioteuſly and tumultuouſly aſſembled together in ſeveral parts of this county, and have, in defiance of all law and good government, committed many acts of theft and violence, by which the perſons, dwellings, and property of his Majeſty's liege ſubjects inhabiting theſe parts, are become inſecure, and expoſed to ſudden and dangerous attacks; And whereas, although it has pleaſed Almighty God to viſit theſe lands with ſcanty crops and bad harveſts ſucceſſively for ſome years paſt, and although the laſt harveſt in particular was, by the continuance of violent rains for ſeveral weeks, rendered uncommonly long and expenſive, and quantities of corn were conſiderably damaged; yet the prices of grain in this and the neighbouring markets have been, and continue to be, leſs raiſed than in other parts of the kingdom; and proper meaſures have been taken by a reſpectable number of the Juſtices of the Peace, freeholders in this neighbourhood, co-operating with the Town-council, for ſupplying the markets of Perth with meal; And whereas ſuch riots and tumults, in their conſequences, tend to produce that ſcarcity which the perſons ſo aſſembled, in order to deceive the deluded multitude, pretend it is their object to prevent; as will evidently appear from the following conſiderations: —

1. As the country ſituated on and near the river Tay, though it produces a ſuperfluity of wheat and barley, requires annually a very large ſupply of oat-meal for the ſupport of the inhabitants; if the people in the counties from whence that ſupply is uſually brought into the Tay, ſhould, after the example of the rioters in this part of the country, prevent by violence the exportation of oats and meal from thence, there would not be a ſufficient quantity of oat-meal in the markets bordering upon the river of Tay, to anſwer the neceſſary demands of the inhabitants until next harveſt.

2. It cannot be expected, that any merchants will venture to commiſſion or lay up ſuch quantities of oats or meal as will be wanted, when their granaries and ſtorehouſes are expoſed to plunder and rapine.

3. Thoſe farmers who ſo cultivate their lands by their ſkill, induſtry, and expence, as to produce the beſt crops, and who conſequently, as far as in them lies, endeavour to increaſe the ſupply for the markets, being uſually poſſeſſed of the largeſt ſtores of grain in their barns and barn-yards, have been for that reaſon, though they are really the beſt friends of the poor, marked out by ill-deſigning men as the objects of popular reſentment, to the entire diſcouragement of all good cultivation and improvement, by which alone, through the bleſſing of God, a plentiful crop of grain can be obtained: —

All which conſiderations evince the neceſſity of maintaining order and good government, and ſo ſecuring to every man the peaceable poſſeſſion of his property, under the protection of law, which is the birthright of every Briton; and in the due execution of which, the lower claſs of people is moſt peculiarly intereſted, that the farmer may reap the reaſonable fruits of his labour, and that the merchant may be induced to import ſuch quantities of oats or oat-meal as ſhall be required for the ſupply of the markets; theſe being the moſt probable means, under God, of preventing ſcarcity, and of providing food for the poor:

And whereas, by an act of parliament paſſed in the 1ſt year of the reign of K. George I. intitled, *An act for preventing tumults and riotous aſſemblies, and for the more ſpeedy and effectual puniſhing the rioters*, it is among other things enacted, "That the proſecutions for repairing the damages of any dwelling-houſe, barn, ſtable, or out-houſe, which ſhall be demoliſhed or pulled down, in whole, or in part, within Scotland, by any perſons unlawfully,

unlawfully, riotouſly, or tumultuouſly aſſembled, ſhall and may be recovered by ſummary action, at the inſtance of the party aggrieved, his or her heirs or executors, againſt the county, ſtewartry, city, or borough reſpectively, where ſuch diſorders ſhall happen;" by which proviſion, the legiſlature manifeſtly intended to excite all magiſtrates in counties and boroughs, and thoſe who ſhall be lawfully called to their aſſiſtance, to exert their utmoſt endeavours for effectually ſuppreſſing ſuch riots and tumults, and for preventing the miſchievous effects of them: and from hence the wicked and evil-diſpoſed perſons who deſtroy the houſes and properties of thoſe who are the objects of their reſentment, may ſee that their intentions are entirely fruſtrated, and that the loſs occaſioned by their wicked practices falls upon the county, city, or borough:

And whereas by other proviſions contained in the ſaid act, all perſons guilty of the offences therein mentioned, incur the pains of death, and confiſcation of moveables; ſo that all innocent perſons, who from folly and curioſity, or at the inſtigation of the evil-diſpoſed, mingle with riotous mobs, ſubject themſelves to theſe heavy pains and penalties:

Therefore, for preventing ſuch evils for the future, the Meeting unanimouſly concurred with the Sheriff in the following RESOLUTIONS.

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2. That in caſe evil-diſpoſed perſons ſhould ſtill endeavour to diſturb the peace of the county, by tumults and riotous aſſemblies, the whole Noblemen, Gentlemen, and Heritors, will, as one man, uſe their utmoſt endeavours to ſuppreſs ſuch riots, and to apprehend the guilty, by raiſing their tenants and ſervants, and following the mobs wherever they go.

3. That this may be done in an orderly and effectual manner, a ſignal ſhall be made at Perth, in caſe the mob proceeds from thence, by firing a cannon once in every five minutes, for an hour at leaſt, as has been concerted with the commander of his Majeſty's forces at Perth: And in caſe it proceeds from any other place, by ringing of the pariſh-bell, as well as by ſending notice from one place to another.

4. That as ſoon as ſuch ſignals are heard, or notices given, the ſame ſhall be further communicated by ringing the pariſh-bells of other pariſhes who perceive the ſame; and the miniſter and precentor of ſuch pariſh, ſhall take care the bells be ſo rung upon ſuch ſignals and notices, and all the Noblemen, Gentlemen, and other Heritors, with their tenants, ſervants, and dependents, ſhall thereupon aſſemble at the reſpective pariſh-churches, mounted on horſeback, ſo far as they have horſes, and armed, at leaſt, with clubs or ſtout ſticks; after which they are to repair to the place where ſuch mobs are; or if they have no certain information thereof, they are to repair to the North Inch of Perth, where they will be joined by the Sheriff, with his Majeſty's forces, as has been concerted with the commander of his Majeſty's forces in Perth, and receive directions where to proceed.

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JOHN SWINTON.

SIR. *Perth, Jan. 8.*

HAving obſerved a letter from Perth, inſerted in your paper of the 4th inſtant, wherein the conduct of the Provoſt is very imperfectly repreſented [xxxiv. 692.], I think, that, in juſtice to him, the ſituation he was then in ſhould be known.

After the riot-act was read, the Provoſt was left to guard the priſon with ſome of the military, ſeveral of whom were wounded with ſtones thrown by the mob, and he himſelf received a blow with a ſtone. Had he ordered the military to fire on the rioters, he foreſaw, that many of them, and many innocent people whom curioſity had drawn thither, would have been killed; and that he and ſome of the ſoldiers might probably ſhare the ſame fate, from the enraged deſperate multitude. Had he withdrawn, and diſmiſſed the military; the rioters, after breaking open the priſon-doors, would have ſet at liberty, not only their two aſſociates, but alſo the other priſoners. Thus he was forced to chuſe one of two diſagreeable alternatives: Either to releaſe the two rioters, and thus ſecure the reſt of the priſoners; or give orders to fire upon the mob; in which caſe it was uncertain but that they might prevail, and after all make the reſcue. Prudence and humanity dictated the firſt, as the leaſt of the two evils. He therefore releaſed the two rioters, ſecured the priſon, and thus diſperſed the mob. It muſt be noticed, that at this time there was only a ſmall number of ſoldiers in town after they were all collected together.

A method of marking ſheep, communicated to the Society of Arts, by a gentleman of Monmouthſhire; who obſerves, that the loſs of wool occaſioned by pit-marking, computed at 200,000 l. a-year, would by this method be ſaved.

PUT as much linſeed-oil to a pound of printers ink, as will, when well worked together, render it about the ſame degree of thickneſs as houſe-painters generally mix their paint, but rather thicker than otherwiſe. When the ſheep are ſhorn, make a large Roman letter over the middle of the ſheep's back with a ſtubborn hog's briſtle half-inch bruſh, and rub the ink well in by uſing the bruſh both ways ſeveral times, ſo as to work the colour quite through the wool to the ſkin of the ſheep; and turn them out. If it be in dry weather, the better: but wet will not efface the letters. — Make the mark over the ſheep's back, becauſe they are apt to rub their ſides againſt trees, rocks, &c.

Abſtract of the act 10° Geo. III. c. 51. for encouraging the improvement of lands in Scotland held under ſettlements of ſtrict entail. [xxxii. 327.]

[*From the Appendix to Erſkine's Inſtitute of the law of Scotland, juſt publiſhed.*]

IT is enacted, That proprietors of entailed eſtates in Scotland, may grant leaſes, for any number of years not exceeding thirty-one, or for fourteen years and one exiſting life, or for two exiſting lives; provided that in leaſes for two lives the tenant be taken bound to incloſe one third of the lands in ten years, two thirds in twenty, and the whole in thirty years; and in leaſes for any term of years exceeding nineteen, to incloſe one third of the lands before the expiration of one third of ſuch term, two thirds before the expiration of two thirds, and the whole before the expiration of the term of ſuch leaſe; no incloſure comprehending more than forty acres, unleſs the lands be improper for culture by the plough; and the fences to be kept and left in good repair by the tenant.

2. Proprietors of entailed eſtates may grant building-leaſes for any number of years not exceeding ninety-nine; provided that a leaſe of no more than five acres be granted to one perſon, and that the leaſe contain a condition, That it ſhall be void if one dwelling-houſe at leaſt, not under the value of 10 l. be not built on each half-acre within ten years from the date of the leaſe, and if all the houſes built be not kept in tenantable repair.

3. Provided, That no leaſe be granted of the manor-place, with the offices, gardens, and adjacent incloſures, that have been uſually in the natural poſſeſſion of the proprietor; and that building leaſes be not granted of any lands within 300 yards of the manor-place.

4. Provided, That no leaſe be granted till the former leaſe be determined, or, if for a term certain, be within a year of being determined; — that the rent in the new leaſe be not under that in the former; and that no fine or graſſum be taken by the granter.

5. Enacted, That every proprietor of an entailed eſtate, who lays out money in incloſing, planting, or draining, or in erecting farm-houſes, and offices for the ſame, ſhall be a creditor to the ſucceeding heirs of entail for three fourths of the money ſo laid out.

6. Provided,

6. Provided, 1*mo*, That the claim againſt the ſucceeding heir ſhall not exceed four years free rent of the entailed eſtate as at the firſt term of Whitſunday after the death of the heir who expended the money.

7. 2*do*, That notice of the intended improvements be made in writing, three months at leaſt before they are begun, to the next heir after the heirs of the proprietor's body; or if that heir be not within Great Britain or Ireland, to his neareſt relation by the father, or to his factor or attorney; and a copy of the notice lodged with the ſheriff or ſteward clerk of the county where the lands lie.

8. 3*tio*, That annually, within four months after Martinmas, an account of the ſums expended during the year preceding that term, with the vouchers, be lodged with the ſheriff or ſteward clerk.

9. 4*to*, That when a ſum equal to four years free rent ſhall have been expended, and ſhall remain a ſubſiſting charge againſt the ſucceeding heirs, it ſhall not be lawful for the ſubſequent heirs to expend any more under the authority of this act.

10. Enacted, That the ſheriff or ſteward clerks ſhall record the ſaid accounts, vouchers, and copies of notice, and either make the record patent, or give extracts when deſired.

11 Enacted, That the executors or aſſigns of the heir who expended the money in improvements, may, after one year from his death, demand payment from the ſucceeding heir, with intereſt from the term when that heir's right to the rents commenced; and in caſe of non-payment, ſue him before the court of ſeſſion; and on obtaining decree, uſe all diligence for recovering payment, except adjudication againſt the entailed eſtate improved; and in all queſtions of competition for the rents of the entailed eſtate, thoſe in the right of this claim ſhall be preferred to the other creditors of the heir in poſſeſſion.

12. Provided, That the heir in poſſeſſion ſhall be diſcharged upon his effectually conveying to the creditor in the ſums laid out in improvements, one third of the clear rents of the entailed eſtate during his life, or till the money ſo due ſhall thereby be paid off.

13. Enacted, That if the money due for improvements be not recovered from the heir immediately ſucceeding, thoſe in the right of it may ſue either the ſucceſſors of that heir in any other eſtate, or the heir of entail ſucceeding to him, and uſe all kinds of diligence for recovery, except adjudication againſt the entailed eſtate; and ſhall be intitled to a preference upon the rents of the entailed eſtate to the perſonal creditors of the heir in poſſeſſion; and in like manner they may ſue every ſucceeding heir of entail, and with the ſame preference.

14. Provided, the heir firſt ſucceeding to him who expended in improvements, and the ſucceſſors of that heir, ſhall be bound to relieve all ſubſequent heirs of ſuch part of the debt incurred by improvement of the entailed eſtate, as ſhall be paid by them, to the extent of one third of the rents, which have come to the uſe of the firſt ſucceeding heir, or of his heirs or executors; and when that is exhauſted, then the next ſucceeding heir, and his ſucceſſors, ſhall be bound to relieve all ſubſequent heirs, to the extent of one third of the rents which have come to their uſe; and the ſame relief ſhall be competent to every ſucceeding heir againſt the ſucceſſors of the preceding.

15 Provided, That the ſucceſſors of an heir of entail in any other than the entailed eſtate, ſued on account of improvements, ſhall be diſcharged, upon making payment of one third of the rents of the entailed eſtate which have come to the uſe of that heir or his ſucceſſors.

16. Enacted, That the perſon having a claim on account of improvements, ſhall be obliged, within two years after the death of him who made the improvements, to demand payment from the ſucceeding heir; and in caſe of non-payment within ſix months after the elapſe of ſaid two years, to inſtitute an action in the court of ſeſſion, and proceed, without delay, to recover decree, and do exact diligence for making payment effectual: and if he fail, or allow the ſucceeding heir to die without recovering to the amount at leaſt of one third of the rents that may have become due to that heir, then, though he may ſue the heir's ſucceſſors in any other than the entailed eſtate to that amount, he ſhall have no claim againſt the ſubſequent ſucceeding heir of entail, except for the ſurplus.

17. Enacted, That if the heir firſt ſucceeding to him who made the improvements, ſhall not live long enough to be indemnified of what he has paid on that account, by one third of the rents that

ſhall

ſhall come to his uſe, or that of his ſucceſſors, theſe ſhall be creditors for the balance to the ſucceeding heir of entail; and relief ſhall, in like manner, be competent to the ſucceſſors of every heir of entail in the ſame circumſtances.

18. Enacted, That the money expended for improvements ſhall not be made a ground for adjudging the eſtate improved.

19. Enacted, That if the ſucceeding heir of entail ſhall have right to the claim for improvements, then the claim ſhall be extinguiſhed, and never ſet up againſt the ſucceeding heir.

20. Enacted, That if any heir of entail ſhall refuſe to pay the money required of him for improvements, and if decree ſhall be recovered for the full ſum demanded, then the defender ſhall be liable for full coſts of ſuit.

21. Enacted, That an heir of entail, after having completed the improvement of all or any part of the eſtate, may bring an action before the court of ſeſſion, or the ſheriff, in which he ſhall call the heir next intitled to ſucceed after the heirs of his own body, for aſcertaining the amount of the charge againſt the ſucceeding heirs of entail; and the decree, if pronounced by the ſheriff, ſhall be final, unleſs ſuſpended within ſix months; and if by the court of ſeſſion, whether in the firſt inſtance or upon review, final, unleſs an appeal is brought within twelve months.

22. Enacted, That every heir of entail who lays out money in building or repairing a manſion-houſe, or offices, upon his eſtate, or in adding to them, ſhall be a creditor to the next ſucceeding heir of entail for three fourths of the money expended by him.

23. Provided, 1*mo*, That the ſums ſo laid out ſhall not be effectual to conſtitute a claim againſt the ſucceeding heir for more than two years free rent of the eſtate, as at the firſt term of Whitſunday after the death of the heir who expended the money claimed.

24. 2*do*, That notice be given, and the copies recorded, in the ſame manner as directed with regard to improvements of the lands.

25. Enacted, Thoſe in the right of the claim on account of that expence, may demand payment from the ſucceeding heir, after one year from the death of him who expended the money, with intereſt from the term at which the heir's right to the rent commenced; and, in default of payment within three months of ſuch requiſition, may ſue the heir, in the ſame way as directed with regard to improvements.

26. Enacted, That the ſame rules of relief among ſucceeding heirs, of preference, and in ſubjecting defenders to the payment of coſts, and for aſcertaining the amount of the ſum laid out, ſhall take place with regard to the money laid out in this way, as with reſpect to the expence of improvements.

27. Enacted, That it ſhall be lawful for heirs of entail to make exchanges of land for the conveniency or advantage of their eſtates, and for the improvement of the country.

28. Provided, That not more than thirty acres of arable land, or one hundred acres of grounds improper for culture by the plough, of ſuch entailed eſtates, ſhall be given in exchange; and that an equivalent in land contiguous to the entailed eſtate with which the exchange is made, ſhall be received in place of that given in exchange; and for aſcertaining the value of the lands to be exchanged, application ſhall be made to the ſheriff or ſteward of the county where the entailed eſtate lies, who thereupon ſhall appoint two or more ſkilful perſons to adjuſt the value of the lands; and upon their ſettling the marches, and reporting upon oath that the exchange will be juſt and equal, the ſheriff or ſteward ſhall authoriſe the exchange to be made by a contract of excambion; and that being executed, and recorded in the ſheriff or ſteward books within three months after the execution thereof, ſhall be effectual; the land given in exchange to the entailed eſtate ſhall thenceforth be held a part thereof, and that given from it held as out of the entail.

29. Enacted, That this act ſhall extend to all tailzies, whether made prior or poſterior to the act 1685.

Of Potato-diſtil'ation.

MAlted barley has hitherto been ſuppoſed to yield the largeſt quantity of ſpirit of any kind of grain that has been tried, except rye, which is ſaid by ſome to yield near one third more. In the Swediſh tranſactions there are ſome experiments of diſtilling a ſpirit from potatoes. Sixteen meaſures of potatoes were boiled with water, and worked with the liquor till the whole became tough dough.

dough. This was diluted with boiling water to the conſiſtence of thin gruel, and fermented. The fermentation went on well, and the liquor, diſtilled on the third day, yielded one meaſure of good brandy. The potatoes did not ſettle, or burn to the ſtill, as might have been expected. The author, Mr Kyte, makes a compariſon, from this experiment, of the profits in cultivating potatoes and barley for diſtillation. He computes, that the produce of ſpirits from potatoes is to that from barley, in equal extents of ground, as 566 to 156, even admitting the potatoes to be planted in the worſt kinds of ground, and the barley in ſo good a ſoil as to yield an increaſe of fifty fold. — It is wiſhed that ſome public-ſpirited gentleman, or diſtiller, would make a trial of this, and acquaint the public with the effect. It is well known that potatoes yield a very great increaſe, and that ſuch quantities of them might be cultivated on ſandy and gravelly ſoils, as would prevent the uſe of them by the diſtillers from enhancing the price or diſtreſſing the poor. Is not this worthy the attention of agriculture-ſocieties?

A lady to her niece on her expreſſing great uneaſineſs at the loſs of her beauty by the ſmall pox.

My dear Maria,

WE muſt diſtinguiſh thoſe evils which are impoſed by Providence from thoſe to which we ourſelves give the power of hurting us. A ſmall part of *your* calamity is the infliction of Heaven; the reſt is little more than the fretting of idle diſcontent. You have indeed, loſt that which may ſometimes contribute to happineſs, but to which happineſs is by no means inſeparably annexed. You have loſt what the greater number of the human race never have poſſeſſed; what thoſe on whom it is beſtowed, for the moſt part, poſſeſs in vain; and what you, while it was yours, knew not how to uſe. You have only loſt early what the laws of nature forbid you to keep long, and have loſt it while your mind is yet flexible, and while you have time to ſubſtitute more valuable and durable excellencies. Conſider yourſelf, Maria, as a being born to know, to reaſon, and to act; riſe at once from your dream of melancholy to wiſdom, and to piety: you will find that there are other charms than thoſe of beauty, and other joys than the praiſe of fools. I am,

Your affectionate aunt, A. V—r.

To the PUBLIC.

[The meeting after mentioned was held in conſequence of a looſe advertiſement, of date Jan. 1. 1773; the preamble of which was much the ſame with that of this addreſs]

Edinburgh, Jan. 25. 1773.

WHereas many honeſt and induſtrious poor, and their families, in and about the city of Edinburgh, who have no ſhare of any public charity, are oftentimes, by the ſeverity of the weather, bodily ſickneſs, or other unavoidable misfortunes, deprived of the neceſſary means of life; eſpecially at a time when the price of proviſions of every kind is ſo much advanced: And whereas many well-diſpoſed perſons, of various denominations, deeply affected with their diſtreſſed ſituation, are deſirous to contribute towards their relief, but have not proper opportunities, nor time, to examine into their character and circumſtances: Therefore ſeveral of the Nobility, Gentlemen, Miniſters, and others, have opened a ſubſcription, in order to afford ſome temporary ſubſiſtence to ſuch needy objects, during the time of their incapacity to earn their own bread, from the cauſes above mentioned: And in order to carry this charitable deſign into execution, did, at a meeting on the 19th current, form themſelves into a ſociety, under the title of, *The ſociety for relief of honeſt and induſtrious poor in and about the city of Edinburgh*; and did elect James Smollet, Eſq; one of the Commiſſaries of Edinburgh, preſes of the general meeting; Mr James Forreſt, and Mr Charles Wallace, treaſurers; and,

The Rev. Dr Webſter,
The Rev. Dr Erſkine,
Mr W. Binning, Advocate,
Mr Alex. Belſches, Advocate,
Mr Scott-Moncrieffe,
Mr Alexander Hunter,
Mr John Walker,
Dr Gregory Grant,
Mr John Forreſt,
Mr William Dickſon,
Mr James Young,
Mr John Young,
Mr William Anderſon,
Mr Alexander Crichton,
Mr William Galloway,

as a committee for managing the ordinary buſineſs of ſaid ſociety; the aforeſaid officers and committee to continue till the third Monday of January 1774. — The meeting did thereafter agree, that the ſociety ſhould be regulated, till that time, by the following rules.

I. That

I. That ſuch perſons reſiding in or about the city of Edinburgh, who, by reaſon of ſickneſs, inclemency of the weather, or other unavoidable misfortunes, are rendered incapable of earning their bread in the ordinary courſe of their buſineſs, be deemed objects of this charity. Provided always, that ſuch perſons are not ſtated penſioners upon any other charitable fund.

II. That as one great deſign of this ſociety is, to prevent, as much as in them lies, all impoſition with regard to the objects thereof; and as the fund thereto belonging ariſes wholly from ſubſcriptions and charitable donations; thoſe concerned have an undoubted right to judge, with their own eyes, of the qualifications of the petitioners for charity: Therefore it is hereby expreſsly provided and declared, That no petition, or application, ſhall be received, except in writing, ſetting forth the circumſtances of the ſaid petitioners; which ſhall be atteſted by two contributors, as conſiſting with their own perſonal knowledge, or with the perſonal or certain knowledge of two people of character, whoſe names ſhall be mentioned in the atteſtation of the contributors.

III. That no ſingle perſon ſhall receive, in one week, more than the value of two ſhillings, nor in one year more than the value of twenty ſhillings; and that no family ſhall receive more than the value of four ſhillings in one week, nor more than the value of forty ſhillings in one year.

IV. That one half, at leaſt, of the allowance to be granted to each perſon, or family, ſhall be given in meal, and the remainder in money, as in manner to be after expreſſed, unleſs in ſuch caſes wherein it ſhall appear neceſſary to the committee to give the whole in money or meal.

V. That each perſon ſubſcribing upwards of five ſhillings annually, ſhall be a member of the ſociety, and as ſuch intitled to vote in perſon, or by proxy, at every general meeting.

VI. That there ſhall be two general meetings held every year in the hall of the Society for propagating Chriſtian knowledge, (the Society having agreed thereto), viz. on the third Monday of January and November, at twelve o'clock, with power to adjourn themſelves to ſuch times and places as they ſhall ſee cauſe.

VII. That the general meeting ſhall appoint fifteen of their number whoſe uſual reſidence is in or about Edinburgh, as a committee for managing the ordinary buſineſs of the ſociety, three of whom ſhall be a quorum.

VIII. That the committee ſhall meet once a-week, viz. on every Monday, at ſix o'clock in the evening, in the Society-hall, for the purpoſe of receiving applications from perſons praying for a ſhare of this charity; which committee are authoriſed, at their weekly meetings aforeſaid, to appoint the treaſurer to make payment of the ſums of money allowed by them to each petitioner, and alſo to determine the quantity of meal proper to be given to each of the ſaid petitioners.

IX. That for the more effectual providing of meal of a good and ſufficient quality, a perſon of character ſhall be contracted with, from month to month, to furniſh the ſame; upon whom orders ſhall be iſſued, ſubſcribed by the preſes of the committee, for delivering to the perſons obtaining the benefit of this charity, the reſpective proportions allotted to each as aforeſaid.

X. That the treaſurer ſhall, on the firſt Monday of every month, clear accounts with the perſon employed as aforeſaid, and ſhall then pay to him the ſtipulated price, conform to the quantities contained in the ſaid orders.

XI. That the committee ſhall keep an exact account of all the ſubſcriptions and donations received, and of the application thereof; and ſhall lay the ſame together with their proceedings, before the contributors to the charity, at each of the aforeſaid general meetings, and oftener if required.

XII. That the treaſurer ſhall grant receipts for all the ſubſcriptions and donations received by him, if required.

XIII. That the whole proceedings of the ſociety, and of their committee, and alſo the treaſurer's accounts, ſhall be entered into books to be kept for that purpoſe; and that theſe books ſhall lie open in the Society-hall every Monday, from twelve to two o'clock, for the inſpection of the members.

XIV. That on the third Monday of January 1774, and every year thereafter while this ſociety ſubſiſts, the general meeting ſhall, by a majority of the members preſent, by themſelves or proxies, elect a preſes, treaſurer, clerk, and committee; who are to continue in office for one year, and no longer.

XV. That

XV. That it ſhall be in the power of a quorum of the committee, to call a general meeting of the whole ſubſcribers at any time that circumſtances ſhall require.

XVI. That all the regulations and rules above mentioned ſhall continue in force till the third Monday of January 1774 aforeſaid; when they may be altered, if thought neceſſary.

[Upwards of twenty gentlemens names, merchants, lawyers, bookſellers, and others, are annexed, with whom papers are lodged for receiving ſubſcriptions and contributions.]

An account of an extraordinary Mummy brought to England by Cæſar Young, commander of his Majeſty's ſloop the Weſel, in October 1772, depoſited in the Muſeum.

CApt. Young having touched at Teneriff in his return from the coaſt of Guinea, had the curioſity to aſcend the Pike with a guide; whereon, in a cave, (the burying-place of the ancient Pagan inhabitants), he diſcovered ſeveral dead bodies ſewed up in goats ſkins; one of which he opened, and diſcovered a body perfect, freſh, and the features not in the leaſt mutilated. Some were ſeven feet long, and others five feet three inches. He expreſſed a great deſire to obtain one of theſe bodies; but the Romiſh prieſt made many objections. Thoſe, however, a little gold removed, and he procured him a female mummy. The body is perfect in every particular, the bowels are extracted, and the ſkin appears of a deep tanned copper colour. The hair is long and black, and retains the curl; and the teeth, and nails of the the toes and fingers, are freſh. According to the tradition of the prieſt, and the extinction of the ancient inhabitants, it cannot be leſs than 500 years ſince the deceaſe of this body. Indeed it may be as probably 1000; for, according to its appearance, it may as well continue *ad infinitum*, as remain one year in its preſent condition. It looks like a tanned hide, and conſiſts of bone and ſkin; the nerves, tendons, veins, and arteries, appear diſtinctly like ſtrings.

SIR, *London, Jan. 4. 1773.*

I Some time ago read a paragraph in the public papers, intimating, that his Majeſty was to have an additional augmentation of 200,000 l. per annum to the civil-liſt revenue, upon account, I imagine, of a numerous family to bring up, (which, perhaps, ſhortly will be nine, though King Edward I. had ſixteen children). Therefore the following calculations will be acceptable to ſome of your readers; and will, at the ſame time, ſhew how large a revenue his preſent Majeſty has, in reſpect to what his ancient predeceſſors, Kings of England, had to ſupport the honour and dignity of the crown, &c. The Royal Revenue, as ſettled on his Majeſty, for the civil liſt, or the houſehold, is ſettled at

	£.			
	800,000	0	0	per annum.
which is	61,538	19	2	per month.
is	15,384	12	3½	per week.
is	2,197	16	0½	per day.
is	91	1	1	per hour.

By another account, his preſent Majeſty's income per annum, is as follows:

The civil-liſt revenue, at	£. 800,000
Unappropriated revenue of poſt-office, - -	800,000
Revenue of the duchy of Hanover, &c. -	400,000
Total amount, per annum	£. 2,000,000

Which amounts to

£. 153,846	3	1	per month.
38,461	10	9½	per week.
5,494	10	1½	per day.
228	18	4	per hour.

To make a compariſon in theſe times with thoſe in King Charles II.'s time, about 100 years ago, would aſtoniſh the preſent generation. For the parliament, upon the reſtoration of the King, ſettled a yearly revenue of 1,200,000 l. for the wealth and honour of the King and kingdom; out of which ſum the national expences, and his own family, were to be defrayed.

The jointure of Queen Catharine, wife of King Charles II. was only 30,000 l. to which the King added 10,000 l. per annum, in all 40,000.— Our preſent Queen Charlotte's annual income is 150,000 l.

The magnificence and abundant plenty of the King's table, in thoſe times, was as follows. There were daily in his court 86 tables well furniſhed, each meal; whereof the King's table had 28 diſhes, the Queen's 24, four other tables 16 diſhes each, ſix other tables had 10 diſhes each, twelve other tables had 7 diſhes each, ſeventeen other tables had 5 diſhes each, thirty-two other tables had 3 diſhes each, and thirteen other tables had 2 diſhes each; in all about 500 diſhes per week, with bread, beer, and wine neceſſary.

W. F. X.

An authentic account of the diſpute between the Earl of Bellamont and Lord Viſcount Townſhend.

From the London papers of Feb. 3.

SEveral paragraphs having appeared in the papers, which have, under the ſpecious pretence of giving a true ſtate of the tranſaction between the Lords Bellamont and Townſhend, introduced the moſt falſe concluſions, by a preamble of real, known, and avowed facts, it is become our indiſpenſable duty to make public the following true ſtate of that proceeding, which we hereby authoriſe you to do.

On Thurſday, the 24th of December Lord Bellamont employed Lord Charlemont to wait on Lord Townſhend with the following paper, which he read to Lord Townſhend. It will fully explain the nature of the offence given to Lord Bellamont at the caſtle of Dublin in February 1770, and was as follows.

"I wait upon your Lordſhip by deſire of Lord Bellamont: Firſt, To return your Lordſhip his thanks for the recommendations to the King, with which you honoured him, and for which it was his intention to have thanked you in perſon, if you had done him the favour to receive him the laſt time that he attended, by your Lordſhip's appointment, for private audience. I am further to acquaint your Lordſhip, that Lord Bellamont thought it his duty not to break in upon your Lordſhip at an earlier day, leſt he ſhould interrupt you in giving an account of your high commiſſion to the King, or in taking an account of your own important affairs. But as your Lordſhip has now been twelve days in town, he conceives that he may, with propriety, remind your Lordſhip of the diſreſpect thrown upon him by the meſſage delivered to him from your Lordſhip by your aid-de-camp, of which Lord Bellamont makes no doubt that your Lordſhip retains a perfect recollection; it having been of that force as to have obliged him to reſign his employment in the army, in order that he might be at liberty to call upon your Lordſhip for an adequate apology, without incurring the King's diſpleaſure. But leſt your Lordſhip ſhould not have a minute recollection of that tranſaction at this diſtance of time, Lord Bellamont has ſtated it as follows.

"When Lord Bellamont, after ſeveral repeated attendances by appointment, on all which occaſions he had been put off without ſeeing your Lordſhip, did again wait upon your Lordſhip by appointment, the aid-de-camp in waiting having gone down to your Lordſhip, and returned, addreſſed Lord Bellamont in an audible voice, and acquainted him, That he need not ſtay any longer, for that your Lordſhip *would* not be at leiſure to ſee *him* that day; and at the ſame time turning to ſeveral other perſons of different ranks and profeſſions, he told *them*, that your Lordſhip requeſted *they* would wait, as your Lordſhip *would* ſee *them*, however late it might be before you could finiſh with them, or words to that effect. Lord Bellamont replied to the aid-de-camp: "His Excellency will be pleaſed to aſcertain at what time he will ſee me: I have already waited ſeveral times by appointment, and have been ſent away each time." To which the aid-de-camp brought back the following meſſage to Lord Bellamont: "His Excellency commands me to tell your Lordſhip, That he uſually does military buſineſs on Wedneſdays, and any other buſineſs on Thurſdays; that if your Lordſhip comes on either of thoſe days, and that his Excellency ſhall be at leiſure, he will ſee you among others in your turn." To which Lord Bellamont replied, "Sir, you will be ſo good as to inform his Excellency, that as a Peer of the realm I have a right to audience: but if his Excellency does not know what he owes to me, I know what I owe to myſelf, and therefore will not wait upon him here or elſewhere. I will write a letter to his Excellency, ſtating my buſineſs, to which I expect he will ſhew due attention, as it nearly concerns a reſpectable corps of officers."

This, my Lord, is, as Lord Bellamont conceives, an exact ſtate of the reciprocal meſſages which paſſed between your Lordſhip and Lord Bellamont: but as he did not take them down in writing, he cannot poſitively aver each ſyllable. This, however, he can poſitively affirm, that ſuch was the matter of the meſſage, and the terms in which it was conceived, though manifeſtly ſoftened by the aid de-camp; that the idea which it conveyed to every perſon preſent was that of an intentional indignity wantonly caſt on Lord Bellamont by your Lordſhip. Lord Bellamont conceives, that an aid-de-camp is the authentic meſſenger of his ſuperior; and therefore that a meſſage delivered by the

the one is as the *litera ſcripta* of the other. Lord Bellamont conſiders your Lordſhip alone reſponſible to him, and your Lordſhip the only perſon with whom he is to account. The injury is of public notoriety, and therefore an affront upon record, which does not admit of any negotiation."

Lord Townſhend having aſked what apology Lord Bellament required, Lord Charlemont read the following article:

"The only apology which the nature of the affront will admit of, is that of aſking Lord Bellamont's pardon. Lord Bellamont does not mean to hurry your Lordſhip in any thing, but expects your Lordſhip's anſwer in a reaſonable time, at all events one day at leaſt before your Lordſhip leaves town."

Lord Townſhend made anſwer, "I cannot aſk pardon, as it would be an acknowledgement of an offence I never intended."

Lord Charlemont replied, "I am not at liberty to take back any other anſwer to Lord Bellamont, than that your Lordſhip aſks his pardon, or deſires to take time to conſider of aſking it; I therefore intreat your Lordſhip will reflect, before you lay me under an abſolute neceſſity of delivering another meſſage to your Lordſhip, which Lord Bellamont ſends with the utmoſt regret, and which I ſhall deliver with equal reluctancy."

Lord Townſhend having perſiſted in his refuſal, Lord Charlemont read to Lord Townſhend the following meſſage:

"I am injoined by Lord Bellamont to tell your Lordſhip from him, that he conſiders you diveſted of every principle that conſtitutes the character of a man of honour."

Upon Lord Charlemont's delivery of this laſt meſſage, Lord Townſhend begged his permiſſion to call in a friend to be witneſs of it. Colonel Fraſer having come in, Lord Townſhend requeſted that Lord Charlemont would again read this laſt meſſage. Lord Charlemont thereupon read the entire paper a ſecond time. And being requeſted by Lord Townſhend to carry back an anſwer to Lord Bellamont, Lord Charlemont, conformable to his private inſtructions from Lord Bellamont, replied, That any meſſage Lord Townſhend might have to ſend, muſt be ſent by a meſſenger of his own.

On Saturday the 26th, at half an hour after eleven o'clock at night, Lord Bellamont received the following letter from Lord Ligonier.

"My Lord, *December* 26. 1772.

I have a meſſage to deliver to your Lordſhip from Lord Townſhend, and beg to know when I may be allowed to wait on you. I have the honour to be, my Lord, your Lordſhip's moſt obedient, moſt humble ſervant,

North Audley ſtreet. LIGONIER.

To the Earl of Bellamont."

To which Lord Bellamont ſent the following anſwer.

"My Lord,

I this moment received the honour of your Lordſhip's letter, communicating to me that you have a meſſage to deliver to me from Lord Townſhend, and deſiring to know when I ſhall be at home to receive your Lordſhip. I ſhall not go abroad to-morrow, but will wait at home to have the honour of receiving your Lordſhip, and any commands you may have for me. I have the honour to be, my Lord, your Lordſhip's very humble and obedient ſervant,

Curzon-ſtreet. BELLAMONT.

Saturday night, half after 11 *o'clock.*

To Lord Viſcount Ligonier."

On Sunday morning at eleven o'clock, Lord Ligonier waited on Lord Bellamont; who anticipating Lord Ligonier, ſaid, "Before I receive the meſſage your Lordſhip has to deliver me, I muſt beg leave to call in Lord Charlemont, in order, that as Col. Fraſer was preſent at the delivery of my meſſage to Lord Townſhend, Lord Charlemont may be preſent at the delivery of Lord Townſhend's meſſage to me: to which Lord Ligonier immediately conſented. Lord Charlemont being called in, Lord Bellamont ſaid, the tranſaction had, he ſuppoſed, been related to Lord Ligonier on the part of Lord Townſhend: He wiſhed it ſhould be related by Lord Charlemont on the part of him; for he ſhould be concerned to be miſconceived by Lord Ligonier, for whom he had a high reſpect; and that, from the moment that Lord Ligonier ſhould have delivered Lord Townſhend's meſſage, he did not think it proper for himſelf or friend to ſpeak another word. Of which Lord Ligonier having expreſſed his approbation, Lord Charlemont read the paper to Lord Ligonier, which he had by Lord Bellamont's deſire read to Lord Townſhend. Lord Ligonier then addreſſing Lord Bellamont, ſaid, "What will your Lordſhip ſay, when, notwithſtanding the force of this meſſage, I tell you, I am authorized

riſed by Lord Townſhend to aſſure your Lordſhip, he never meant to offend you?" Lord Bellamont, after a little pauſe, replied, "I confeſs, my Lord, this is more than I expected: but ſince, then, Lord Townſhend's firſt care is, to juſtify his intentions towards me even under his preſent ſituation, let him do it in ſuch a manner as to juſtify me in releaſing him from that ſituation. The apology your Lordſhip has now delivered to me is not yet entirely ſufficient." Lord Ligonier deſired leave to go back to Lord Townſhend; and ſhortly returned with the following meſſage: "Lord Townſhend has already aſſured your Lordſhip, he never meant to offend you. He further aſſures you, he is ſorry for the affair." Lord Bellamont then ſaid, "Before I proceed any further, I muſt deſire that Lord Ancram be ſent for, as he has this morning accepted the office of being my friend in the field if I ſhall be called upon." Lord Ancram being arrived, and informed by the Lords Charlemont and Ligonier of what had paſſed, the Lords Charlemont and Ancram declared, that nothing more could be demanded; and then with Lord Ligonier ſaid, that Lord Bellamont could not ſurely require, that Lord Townſhend ſhould aſk his pardon for an offence which he had now in the moſt ſatisfactory manner declared he had never committed. Lord Bellamont made anſwer, "My Lords, I feel as you do, that every thing is implied in this apology; but it is neceſſary that it be fully expreſſed:" and having deſired leave to retire into another room to conſider the matter more clearly, he returned with the following written paper, which he gave to Lord Ligonier; telling him at the ſame time, that he did not tie him down to the letter, but that was the purport of the only reparation he could receive, viz. "Lord Townſhend does aver, that the meſſage delivered to Lord Bellamont by his aid de-camp was highly offenſive: he therefore diſavows it as ſuch; and declares, that it was not in his intentions to give Lord Bellamont any offence, and that he is very much concerned for the miſtake." Lord Ligonier accordingly waited on Lord Townſhend with the ſaid paper, and brought back to Lord Bellamont an apology conſonant to the full and entire purport of it, conceived in the moſt ſatisfactory terms. Lord Bellamont immediately requeſted Lord Ligonier would aſſure Lord Townſhend, that as Lord Townſhend had, by that laſt apology, done away the foundation of the meſſage delivered from him to Lord Townſhend by Lord Charlemont, he had very great pleaſure in declaring it cancelled and annulled.

CHARLEMONT. (L. S.)
ANCRAM. (L. S.)

"I cannot refuſe ſigning the paper delivered to me this morning, without aſſigning my reaſons for it; and I flatter myſelf the motive of my declining it will juſtify me to the world.

I aſſent to the facts and progreſſions as ſtated; but I was miſunderſtood, if what I ſaid relative to Lord Townſhend was conſidered as a meſſage from him. It certainly was not Lord Townſhend's intentions it ſhould be ſo, though I was authoriſed to ſay it from Lord Townſhend to Lord Bellamont, which diſtinction I did not make to Lord Bellamont.

As I wiſhed, from motives of humanity, to bring the affair to an honourable concluſion without coming to extremities, I propoſed returning to Lord Townſhend: my view in ſo doing was that of promoting an accommodation honourable to both.

If I conveyed any other idea to the Lords on my return from Lord Townſhend, than a confirmation that his Lordſhip had intended no affront or injury to Lord Bellamont, and that he diſapproved the manner of the aid de-camp, I have to regret that I had not the good fortune to explain myſelf according to my own ideas and thoſe of Lord Townſhend.

In juſtice to Lord Townſhend, I muſt beg leave to obſerve, that whatever expreſſions of concern he might make uſe of on this miſunderſtanding, aroſe from the regret every man of honour muſt feel under a ſuppoſition of having given offence. This is what I underſtood from Lord Townſhend, and what I meant to convey.

I cannot but perſevere in declining to ſign the paper, as I find, upon conſideration, that what I thought an explanation, equally honourable to both, may be conſtrued into a ſubmiſſive apology, which muſt appear humiliating to Lord Townſhend.

What impreſſions may have been received from any expreſſions of mine in the many private converſations I have had on this painful event, I will not preſume to determine: but I declare, upon my honour, I have had no other view than

than to terminate this affair to the honour of all parties, and ſhall lament if my endeavours ſhould be fruſtrated.

Jan. 29. 1773. LIGONIER." (L.S.)

This is a true copy of the original, in the hands of Lord Bellamont.

CHARLEMONT.
ANCRAM.

The fact as it ſtands above, with reſpect to Lord Ligonier, is not generally underſtood; what follows will explain it.

When Lord Bellamont thought proper to tell Lord Townſhend, by Lord Charlemont, that he conſidered him diveſted of every principle that conſtitutes the character of a man of honour; it was an affront ſo groſs, that Lord Townſhend could not paſs it by; he determined to call him to an account for it, and waited only till Lord Ligonier came to town, to carry his challenge, and attend him to the field. He told Lord Ligonier, among other things, that it never was his intention to affront Lord Bellamont; that he was at the time he waited on him, on parliamentary buſineſs, and that, in conſequence of this, he was juſtified in refuſing to ſee him; but that with reſpect to the manner in which his aid-de-camp delivered the meſſage, he did not hold himſelf reſponſible. Lord Ligonier waited on Lord Bellamont to deliver Lord Townſhend's challenge; but from motives of humanity, from what had paſſed, hoped to reconcile matters, without coming to extremities. He told Lord Bellamont, he was authoriſed to ſay, that Lord Townſhend never meant to offend him; but never deſigned it ſhould be underſtood he came purpoſely with that meſſage. He talked of this, as introductory only to the challenge he was about to deliver. However, on Lord Bellamont's ſaying, "I confeſs, my Lord, this is more than I expected," it gave him ſome hopes, matters were in a fair way to be adjuſted: he returned, therefore, to Lord Townſhend; and, upon diſcuſſing the affair a little further with the different parties, it was concluded the matter was amicably-ended. However, upon receiving the written meſſage from Lord Bellamont, Lord Townſhend finding, it was conceived by Lord Bellamont, that what Lord Ligonier had ſaid, as from himſelf, was ſent as a meſſage from him (Lord Townſhend), he thought it ſo derogatory to his honour, that he diſclaimed any intention of making ſo ſubmiſſive an apology, and inſtantly reſolved to call Lord Bellamont out, and finiſh it in the field.

P. S. London, Feb. 4. On Tueſday after noon, between four and five o'clock, the long-ſubſiſting difference between Lord Townſhend and the Earl of Bellamont was finally decided in Mary-le-Bonne Fields. They were armed with ſmall ſwords and a caſe of piſtols, but it was agreed to uſe the latter firſt. The ſeconds were, the Hon. Mr Dillon for Lord Bellamont, and Lord Ligonier for Lord Townſhend. When they had taken their ground, Lord Bellamont took off his hat; which was returned by Lord Townſhend. The latter then aſked the former, which his Lordſhip choſe ſhould fire firſt? Lord Bellamont begged Lord Townſhend would. Which being immediately complied with, Lord Bellamont received a ball in the right ſide of his belly, near his groin; and diſcharged his piſtol immediately after, without effect. Lord Bellamont was taken up, and put into a chaiſe; but, from the agony ariſing from his wound, he could not bear the motion: a chair was therefore inſtantly ſent for; and he was with great pain put into it, and carried to his lodging; where when he arrived, he deſired to be laid on his back. Mr Broomfield, and other ſurgeons, were immediately called in; who endeavoured for a long time, but in vain, to extract the ball. It fell down between the inteſtines of the muſcles of the thigh, and penetrated the lower part of the belly, near what the anatomiſts call the ring of the abdominal muſcle, and narrowly eſcaped the inguinal artery, which if it had wounded, muſt have proved inſtant death. His Lordſhip is attended by Dr Heberden, Mr Hawkins, Mr Tomkins, Mr Chi tick, &c. and it is hoped will recover; but the ball is not yet extracted."

Opinions differ much about this affair. One ſet applaud Lord Bellamont's courage and reſolution; declaring, that, as a man of honour, he could conſiſtently accept no other compenſation for the high offence he received at Dublin caſtle, than an abſolute ſubmiſſion, and a direct intreaty of pardon, or the ſatisfaction of a gentleman. Another party ſay, Lord Bellamont ought to have been ſatisfied with the meſſage Lord Townſhend ſent by Lord Ligonier, which was more than a ſufficient palliation of the ſuppoſed affront. And a third party blame Lord Bellamont exceedingly; roundly aſſerting,

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ing, that Lord Townſhend, in his repreſentative capacity, had a right to behave to Lord Bellamont as he did at the caſtle; and that the latter was guilty of a great impropriety in calling him to account for the miſtake of an aid-de-camp.

Lord Bellamont was formerly Mr Coote, and afterwards Sir Charles Coote, K. B. having got the red ribband in 1764 [xxvi. 56, xxxiv. 334.], on the recommendation of the Earl of Halifax, on account of his ſervices in ſuppreſſing the White Boys, when his Lordſhip was Lord Lieutenant of Ireland; in 1766, on the death of the Earl of Bellamont, he ſucceeded to the title of Baron Colloony [xxviii. 168.]; and in 1767 was created Earl of Bellamont [xxix. 447.]. His Lordſhip has a lady and ſeven children.

Ways and Means for the year 1773.

I Have not the honour to be acquainted with the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and therefore take this method of pointing out to him an aid in raiſing the ſupplies.

It has been my fate to be employed in the King's ſervice in America, and ſince I was reduced, I have been an Indian trader. In both capacities I have acquired a good deal of knowledge of the lands beyond the mountains, and I think them equal to any I have ever ſeen.

There is now no longer, I apprehend, any occaſion to give premiums for inducing people to go from hence to America, or for prevailing on the old ſettlers there to remove from their poor lands on the ſea-coaſt, and ſit down upon the rich lands over the hills. There are not therefore the ſame reaſons there might have been formerly for giving away theſe lands to all who aſk for them.

Mr Penn does not give away his lands; and why ſhould the King do ſo? Mr Penn, to my knowledge, is now getting one ſhilling Sterling an acre, or 5 l. per hundred acres, for all he is granting over the hills quite up to the Ohio, beſides reſerving a quitrent of two ſhillings an hundred acres. My propoſal therefore is, That all the lands that the King has a right to grant in thoſe parts be ſold for a ſhilling an acre; and as there cannot be ſo little as twenty millions of acres, they would raiſe a good million pounds Sterling if matters were prudently managed. The whole ſhould not be ſold at once, but at the rate of two or three millions at a time; and the money ſhould not be carried out of the country, but given to the ſoldiers for their pay. This would ſave England the ſending money to America, and in theſe diſtreſſing times would be a great benefit to the public. —— *I am, &c.* T. B.

Voltaire's opinion of Oliver Cromwell, and his ſon Richard.

OLiver Cromwell was regarded with admiration by the Puritans and Independents of his time. He was *their* hero, but his ſon Richard is *mine*. The father was a fanatic, who would now be hiſſed in the Houſe of Commons for pronouncing half a ſentence of that unintelligible jargon which he vented among his fanatic brethren, while they heard him with gaping mouths, and eyes turned up to heaven, at the name of the Lord. If he were now living, and ſhould ſay, "We muſt ſeek the Lord; we muſt fight the Lord's battles;" if, to the diſgrace of human reaſon, he ſhould introduce this Jewiſh jargon into the parliament of G. Britain; he would be thought more fit for the ſociety of Bedlam, than the command of an army.

Undoubtedly he was brave, — and ſo are wolves. There are apes, too, that are as furious as tygers. Of a fanatic he became an adroit politician; that is to ſay, the wolf was metamorphoſed into a fox. By his knavery he roſe to the firſt ranks that the outragious enthuſiaſm of the times could give him. He roſe to the pinnacle of grandeur; and like, a thorough-paced villain, trode on the necks of the fanatic wretches who had raiſed him. He reigned, 'tis true; but he lived in diſcontent and horror. His days were uneaſy, and his nights without reſt. He was a ſtranger to the conſolations of friendſhip and ſociety. His death was untimely; and certainly more juſtly ſo than that of the monarch he brought to the ſcaffold.

Richard Cromwell, on the contrary, born with an humble, but ſenſible mind, refuſed to keep his father's *crown** at the expence of the lives of three or four factious ſubjects, which he might eaſily have ſacrificed to his ambition. He choſe rather to retire to a private ſtation, than to be the moſt powerful aſſaſſin. He rejected, without regret, the protectorate, to live like a common citizen. Happy and eaſy in the country, he enjoyed a good ſtate of health, and poſſeſſed his ſoul in peace for ninety years, the friend and protector of his neighbours. — Let the reader determine which condition he would chuſe, that of the unquiet father, or that of the peaceable ſon!

* So our Author expreſſes himſelf.

A Catalogue of NEW BOOKS; the *Prices*, and *Publiſhers Names*, annexed: With REMARKS and EXTRACTS.

[*We ſometimes ſhew from what works we take theſe* Remarks; *by annexing* M. *for* Monthly, *and* C. *for* Critical Review; G. *for* Gentleman's, *and* L. *for* London Magazine, *&c.*]

The Ventriloquiſt. By M. de la Chapelle, confeſſor-royal at Paris, &c. French. 12mo. London, De l'Etanville; Paris, Ducheſne.

THIS work, as the author, at leaſt, with ſome degree of complacence, more than once declares, is an *unique*, and on a very ſingular and curious ſubject. Euſtathius indeed, the learned Biſhop of Antioch in the fourth century, and his tranſlator and commentator Leo Allatius, about the beginning of the ſeventeenth, have, he acknowledges, likewiſe treated of the ſame matter; but they have diſcuſſed it only incidentally, and with a particular view to the circumſtances attending the viſit made by Saul to the witch of Endor, 1 Sam. xxviii. The preſent author, on the contrary, conſiders the ſubject in a general light, and confirms all his remarks and reaſonings upon it by actual obſervations made on two very capital Ventriloquiſts now living. As this is a kind of maiden ſubject, or at leaſt not much known to the generality of readers, we ſhall dwell ſomewhat largely upon it.

Ventriloquiſm, if we may be allowed to uſe the term, in order to avoid circumlocution, is a peculiar gift, art, or quality, of which certain perſons are and have been poſſeſſed, by means of which they have been enabled to modify the voice in ſuch a manner, as to make it appear to thoſe preſent to proceed from the *belly* of the ſpeakers, (from which circumſtance it derives its appellation), or rather to make it ſeem to proceed from any diſtance, or in any direction whatever. Some faint traces of this art or faculty are to be found in the writings of the ancients; but many more are to be diſcovered there, if we adopt the author's opinion, that the reſponſes of many of the ancient oracles were actually delivered by perſons poſſeſſed of this quality, ſo very capable of being applied to the purpoſes of prieſtcraft and deluſion. Nay, it will appear in the courſe of this article, that an entire community even of *prieſts themſelves*, in the very neighbourhood of Paris, as we conjecture, were fairly *taken in* by it, in conſequence of an innocent piece of waggery plaid off upon them, by a perſon who poſſeſſes this talent in a very eminent degree.

The author of this performance is known to many of the curious, by an invention of his that has lately been announced in ſome of the foreign papers, which he calls the *ſcophandre*, and of which we ſhall give a ſhort account at the end of this article. Having brought this uſeful piece of machinery, as he affirms, to its utmoſt perfection, his attention was excited towards a new and very different object, in conſequence of a converſation at which he was preſent about two years ago; in which ſome perſons of learning and probity related many ſurpriſing circumſtances concerning the talents of a certain ventriloquiſt, one M. St Gille, a grocer at St Germain en-Laye, not far from Paris; whoſe powers in that way were aſtoniſhing, and had given occaſion to many ſingular and diverting ſcenes. The author was ſo ſtruck at the marvellous anecdotes related to him, that he immediately formed the reſolution of firſt aſcertaining the matter of fact by the teſtimony of his own ſenſes, and then of inquiring into the cauſe and manner in which the phenomena were produced.

After ſome preparatory and neceſſary ſteps, (for M. St Gille, he had been told, did not chuſe to gratify the curioſity of every one), the Abbé waited upon him, informed him of his deſign, and was very cordially received. He was taken into a parlour on the ground-floor, when M. St Gille and himſelf ſat on the oppoſite ſides of a ſmall fire, with only a table between them; the author keeping his eyes conſtantly fixed upon M. St Gille all the time. Half an hour had paſſed, during which that gentleman diverted the Abbé with the relation of many comic ſcenes which he had given occaſion to by this talent of his; when, all on a ſudden, the Abbé heard himſelf called by his name and title, in a voice that ſeemed to come from the roof of a houſe at a diſtance. He was almoſt petrified with aſtoniſhment. On recollecting himſelf, however, and aſking M. St Gille, whether he had not juſt then given him a ſpecimen

cimen of his art, he was anſwered only by a ſmile: but while the Abbé was pointing to the houſe from which the voice had appeared to him to proceed, his ſurpriſe was augmented on hearing himſelf anſwered, "It was not from that quarter," apparently in the ſame kind of voice as before, but which now ſeemed to iſſue from under the earth, at one of the corners of the room. In ſhort this factitious voice played, as it were, every where about him, and ſeemed to proceed from any quarter, or diſtance, from which the operator choſe to tranſmit it to him. The illuſion was ſo very ſtrong, that, prepared as the Abbé was for this kind of converſation, his mere ſenſes were abſolutely incapable of undeceiving him. Though conſcious that the voice proceeded from the mouth of M. St Gille, that gentleman appeared abſolutely mute, while he was exerciſing this talent; nor could the Author perceive any change whatever in his countenance. He obſerved, however, at this firſt viſit, that M. St Gille contrived, but without any affectation, to preſent only the profile of his face to him while he was ſpeaking as a ventriloquiſt.

The Abbé, who is a moſt unconſcionable and multifarious digreſſor, and is continually ſtarting out of his way to explain or diſcuſs the minuteſt matter that comes acroſs him, proceeds directly from his narrative of the firſt viſit he made to M. St Gille, to account for all the circumſtances attending Saul's conference with the witch of Endor; and endeavours to ſhew, that the ſpeech ſuppoſed to be addreſſed to Saul by the ghoſt of Samuel, actually proceeded from the mouth of the reputed ſorcereſs, whom he ſuppoſes to have been a capital ventriloquiſt. On theſe grounds he explains that tranſaction, and reconciles all its circumſtances to the relation given of it in the Bible; where, it is to be obſerved, that Saul is not ſaid to have ſeen Samuel, but only to have heard a voice; which, it now appears, a ventriloquiſt can produce, and tranſmit from any quarter, and with any degree of ſtrength whatever. He afterwards brings many inſtances to prove, that the ancient oracles principally ſupported their credit, and derived their influence, from the exerciſe of this particular art. This ſuppoſition, he thinks, will not appear by any means forced or incredible; whether we reflect on the nature of the art itſelf, ſo very capable of impoſing on the multitude; or on the various other conſiderations here offered in ſupport of it. The vocal or ſpeaking oaks, for inſtance, of *Dodona*, (the ſeat of one of the moſt celebrated of the ancient oracles), receive from hence a much more ſimple and plauſible ſolution, than from any of the hypotheſes invented by the authors who have treated on this ſubject. There was no neceſſity, he obſerves, to conceal the prieſt, who was to utter the reſponſes, in a hollow tree; or to form ſubterraneous cavities for his reception. Theſe contrivances could ſcarce be executed or employed without frequent danger of diſcovery: whereas a ſingle ventriloque, without any apparatus, could render not only oaks, but even rocks and clouds, vocal, without any hazard of detection.

After various diſcuſſions, more or leſs connected with his principal ſubject, the author relates at length all the teſtimonies that he has been able to collect, relating to the few ventriloquiſts that have been deſcribed by different authors, within the laſt two or three hundred years. From this collection we ſhall only extract the ſubſtance of a little hiſtory given by Brodeau, a learned critic in the 16th century; who relates one of the ſingular feats performed by a moſt capital ventriloquiſt and cheat, in his time; who had not only the talent of emitting a voice, from any diſtance, or in any direction; but had likewiſe a particular knack at counterfeiting the tone or manner of ſpeaking of thoſe with whom he had at any time converſed. He was called *Louis Brabant*, and was valet de chambre to Francis I. Our countryman Dickenſon ſpeaks of him particularly, in his tract, intitled, *Delphi Phœnicizantes*, printed in 12mo, at Oxford, in 1655.

Louis, it ſeems, had fallen moſt deſperately in love with a young, handſome, and rich heireſs; but was rejected by the parents, as an unſuitable match for their daughter, on account of the lowneſs of his circumſtances. The young lady's father dying, he makes a viſit to the widow, who was totally ignorant of his ſingular talent. Suddenly, on his firſt appearance, in open day, in her own houſe, and in the preſence of ſeveral perſons who were with her, ſhe hears herſelf accoſted, in a voice perfectly reſembling that of her dead huſband, and which ſeemed to proceed from above; exclaiming, "Give my daughter in marriage to Louis

Louis Brabant. He is a man of great fortune, and of an excellent character. I now endure the inexpreſſible torments of purgatory, for having refuſed her to him. If you obey this admonition, I ſhall ſoon be delivered from this place of torment. You will at the ſame time provide a worthy huſband for your daughter, and procure everlaſting repoſe to the ſoul of your poor huſband."

The widow could not for a moment reſiſt this dread ſummons, which had not the moſt diſtant appearance of proceeding from Louis Brabant; whoſe countenance exhibited no viſible change, and whoſe lips were cloſe and motionleſs, during the delivery of it. Accordingly ſhe conſents immediately to receive him for her ſon-in law. Louis's finances, however, were in a very low ſituation; and the formalities attending the marriage-contract rendered it neceſſary for him to exhibit ſome ſhew of riches, and not to give the ghoſt the lie-direct. He accordingly goes to work upon a freſh ſubject; one Cornu, an old and rich banker at Lyons; who had accumulated immenſe wealth by uſury and extortion, and was known to be haunted by remorſe of conſcience on account of the manner in which he had acquired it.

Paſſing over the preliminary ſteps and preparations, behold Louis Brabant *tête à tête* with the old uſurer, in his little back parlour, preparing him for his enſuing operations upon him, by artfully turning the converſation upon religious ſubjects; on demons and ſpectres, the pains of purgatory, and the torments of hell. During an interval of ſilence between them, a voice is heard, which to the aſtoniſhed banker ſeems to be that of his deceaſed father, complaining, as in the former caſe, of his dreadful ſituation in purgatory, and calling upon him to deliver him inſtantly from thence, by putting into the hands of Louis Brabant, then with him, a large ſum for the redemption of Chriſtians then in ſlavery with the Turks; threatening him at the ſame time with eternal damnation, if he did not take this method to expiate likewiſe his own ſins. The reader will naturally ſuppoſe that Louis Brabant affected a due degree of aſtoniſhment upon the occaſion; and further promoted the deception, by acknowledging his having devoted himſelf to the proſecution of the charitable deſign imputed to him by the ghoſt.

An old uſurer is naturally ſuſpicious. Accordingly the wary banker makes a ſecond appointment with the ghoſt's delegate, for the next day; and, to render any deſign of impoſing upon him utterly abortive, takes him into the open fields; where not a houſe, or a tree, or even a buſh, or a pit, were in ſight, capable of ſcreening any ſuppoſed confederate. This extraordinary caution excited the ventriloquiſt on his part, to exert all the powers of his art. Where-ever the banker conducts him, at every ſtep, his ears are ſaluted on all ſides, with the complaints and groans, not only of his father, but of all his deceaſed relations, imploring him for the love of God, and in the name of every ſaint in the calendar, to have mercy on his own ſoul and theirs, by effectually ſeconding with his purſe the intentions of his worthy companion. Cornu could no longer reſiſt the voice of heaven; and accordingly carries his gueſt home with him, and pays him down 10,000 crowns; with which the honeſt ventriloquiſt returns to Paris, and marries his miſtreſs. — The cataſtrophe was fatal. The ſecret was afterwards blown, and reached the uſurer's ears; who was ſo much affected by the loſs of his money, and the mortifying railleries of his neighbours, that he took to his bed, and died.

Conſidering the ſuperſtitious and credulous ſpirit of the age when this piece of deceit is ſaid to have been practiſed, the preceding relation appears by no means incredible. We very naturally recollect on this occaſion the audiences given to a very bungling ghoſt, in our own times, and in our own capital; where ſome reputed ſound heads were ſaid to have been ſtrangely unhinged by the clumſy manœuvres of the *dumb* ghoſt of Cocklane, who converſed only by ſcratching and knocking. Had the ſaid ghoſt been a finiſhed ventriloquiſt, — and particularly, if in the ſolemn and ever-memorable viſit made to the gloomy vault of Clerkenwell, Fanny had accoſted her ſagacious and inquiſitive nocturnal viſitants with a *ſpeech from her coffin*, couched in awful and ghoſtly terms, the intellectual concuſſion muſt have been complete and irreſiſtible [xxiv. 149. 392.]. This at leaſt is certain, that in the days of King James, or later ſtill in New England, a man would have ſtood a fair chance of being hanged on even leſs ſubſtantial evidence. [xxxiv. 719.]

This laſt-mentioned trick of Louis Brabant,

Brabant, played off on the old uſurer, alone, is even exceeded by an innocent piece of waggery, not long ago practiſed with ſucceſs, by the author's hero, M. St Gille, on a whole community. Out of reſpect to the miniſters of religion, the author does not ſpecify the ſcene of this adventure; which, however, he obſerves, needs no particular authentication, as the whole affair is very well known at Paris. The following are the outlines of this modern hiſtory, which may ſerve as a proper companion, and as a kind of voucher, to the preceding.

M. St Gille returning home from a place whither his buſineſs had carried him, fought for ſhelter from an approaching thunder-ſtorm, in a neighbouring convent. Finding the whole community in mourning, he inquires the cauſe; and is told, that one of their body had died lately, who was the ornament and delight of the whole ſociety. To paſs away the time, he walks into the church, attended by ſome of the religious, who ſhew him the tomb of their deceaſed brother, and ſpeak feelingly of the ſcanty honours they had beſtowed on his memory. Suddenly a voice is heard, apparently proceeding from the roof of the quire, lamenting the ſituation of the defunct in purgatory, and reproaching the brotherhood with their lukewarmneſs and want of zeal on his account. The friars, as ſoon as their aſtoniſhment gave them power to ſpeak, conſult together, and agree to acquaint the reſt of the community with this ſingular event, ſo intereſting to the whole ſociety.

M. St Gille, who wiſhed to carry on the joke ſtill further, diſſuades them from taking this ſtep; telling them that they will be treated by their abſent brethren as a ſet of fools and viſionaries. He recommends to them, however, the immediately calling the whole community into the church, where the ghoſt of their departed brother may probably reiterate his complaints. Accordingly all the friars, novices, lay-brothers, and even the domeſtics of the convent, are immediately ſummoned and collected together. In a ſhort time the voice from the roof renewed its lamentation and reproaches; and the whole convent fell on their faces, and vowed a ſolemn reparation. As a firſt ſtep, they chaunted a *De profundis* in full choir; during the intervals of which the ghoſt occaſionally expreſſed the comfort he received from their pious exerciſes and ejaculations on his behalf. When all was over, the Prior entered into a ſerious converſation with M. St Gille, and, on the ſtrength of what had juſt paſſed, ſagaciouſly inveighed againſt the abſurd incredulity of our modern ſceptics and pretended philoſophers, on the article of ghoſts or apparitions. M. St Gille thought it now high time to diſabuſe the good fathers. This purpoſe, however, he found it extremely difficult to effect, till he had prevailed upon them to return with him into the church, and there be witneſs of the manner in which he had conducted this ludicrous deception.

[*To be continued.*]

A poetical epiſtle to Chriſtopher Auſtrey, Eſq; on the Engliſh poets, chiefly thoſe who have written in blank verſe. 1*s.* Payne.

OF this piece we ſhall inſert the firſt paragraph, rather than any other, as a ſpecimen; becauſe it will afford an opportunity of correcting a miſtaken opinion that has long been echoed from one wit to another, and implicitly received by thoſe who have had no opportunity of knowing better.

No, not in rhyme. I hate that *iron chain*,
Forg'd by the hand of ſome *rude Goth*, which cramps
The *faireſt feather* in the Muſe's wing,
And *pins* her to the ground. Shall the quick thought,
That darts from world to world, and traverſes
The realms of time and ſpace, all fancy-free,
Check'd in his rapid courſe, obey the call
Of ſome barbarian, who by ſound enſlav'd,
And deaf to manly melody, proclaims,
"No farther ſhalt thou go?" Pent in his cage,
Th' impriſon'd eagle ſits, and beats his bars;
His eye is rais'd to heaven. Tho' many a moon
Has ſeen him pine in ſad captivity,
Still to the thunderer's throne he longs to bear
The bolt of vengeance; ſtill he thirſts to dip
His daring pinions in the fount of light.

We cannot think, that an *iron* chain, *cramping* a *fair feather*, and *pinning* the Muſe to the *ground*, are congruous, much leſs elegant images. Forging a chain to cramp a feather, is too much like charging a culverin to kill a moth; and, ſurely, a chain is not an inſtrument by which what it ſecures or reſtrains can be ſaid to be *pinned*. Neither can we think, that quick thought, under the ſimilitude of an eagle, can with propriety be repreſented as impatient to bear the bolt of vengeance to the throne of Jove.

Rhyme,

Rhyme, however, whether it is, or is not, injurious to Poetry, is neither of Monkiſh nor Gothic origin. The Arabians, and other Orientaliſts, who may be conſidered as the fathers of Poetry, wrote in rhyme before there was a Monk in the world; and nothing is more certain, than that a very conſiderable part of the beſt Engliſh compoſitions which have been called *poems*, from which rhyme has been excluded, have preſented no other characteriſtic of verſes. A very great proportion of the Paradiſe Loſt is mere proſe, printed in lines of ten ſyllables; and, if read with a juſt regard to emphaſis and punctuation, has no more melody than if meaſure had not been intended. This Epiſtle is full of ſuch imagery as decorates the beſt poetry; and ſo it might have been, if it had been deſtitute of meaſure; but then it would not have been poetry: nor is it without paſſages, where, though meaſure was intended, it never would have been found by the niceſt ear, if only ten ſyllables had not been printed in a line. Let the reader judge of the following: "Let rhyme ſupply the majeſty of nobler ſentiment, which ill might ſuit the peaſant: Gay felt this, and mark'd the manners of the Britiſh hind, and uncouth dialect." It muſt however be acknowledged, that whether rhyme is or is not of advantage to our verſe, is a queſtion of taſte; and therefore cannot be decided by argument. Let the favourers of blank verſe, however, take care, that their meaſure is not referred wholly to the art of the printer, and forbear to reproach thoſe who take the other ſide of the queſtion, as having formed their taſte upon Gothic barbariſm, and Monkiſh ignorance. G.

THIS Epiſtle is written, throughout all its parts, *con amore*; and though we differ from the author in our ſentiments concerning the neceſſity and uſe of rhyme in our language, we can by no means ſuffer our review of his piece to wear the ſmalleſt appearance of controverſy, and therefore are content to leave him in poſſeſſion of the field.

He permits the uſe of rhyme to elegiac, lyric, and ſatiric poetry; and we moſt heartily recommend the whole of this engaging performance to the notice of all our readers who delight in claſſical elegance, originality of thought, and a juſt eſtimation of the various merits of ſeveral of our moſt celebrated Engliſh poets. C.

FOREIGN.

Obſervations on a book, intitled, The ſyſtem of Nature. By M. J. de Caſtillon. French 8vo. *Berlin.* —— Reflect no ſmall honour on the author. M.

The ſocial ſyſtem; or, The natural principles of morality and politics; with an examination of the influence of government upon manners. French. 8vo. 3 vols. *Paris.* —— This work is ſaid to come from the pen of the author of *Syſtême de la Nature* [xxxiii. 91.]; and this is highly probable. The ſame atheiſtic principles, the ſame diffuſe and declamatory manner of writing, the ſame want of order and preciſion, the ſame ſpirit of railing at prieſts and prieſtcraft, the ſame groſs miſrepreſentation of the Chriſtian ſyſtem, appears in both productions, together with the moſt outrageous blaſphemy. M.

Critical obſervations on Job xix. 23 — 29. To which is added, a critical interpretation of the reſt of the paſſages in that book, in which any traces of the ancient religion are found. By J. C. Velthuſen. Latin. 12mo. *Sold by Hydinger, &c* —— Here thoſe who inquire critically into ſacred ſubjects may meet with ſeveral obſervations worthy of their particular regard. M.

Lectures on morality, read in the univerſity of Leipſic, by the late Mr Gellert. French. Tranſlated from the German 8vo. 2 vols. *Utrecht.* —— Mr Gellert's principal view, is the improvement and inſtruction of youth; and ſo admirably is his work calculated to warm their hearts with the love of virtue, and to inſpire them with noble and generous ſentiments, that it ſeems to us impoſſible for any perſon to peruſe it attentively, without feeling an earneſt deſire of anſwering the great end of his creation, of being wiſe for time, and wiſe for eternity. M.

An eſſay on the character, manners, and genius of women in different ages. By M. Thomas, of the French academy. French. 8vo. *Paris.* —— Curious and intereſting, inſtructive and entertaining; the pictures drawn of the characters and manners of the fair ſex, very juſt and ſtriking. M.

A treatiſe upon luxury; or, An attempt to ſhew, that it is not only uſeful, but indiſpenſably neceſſary to the proſperity of ſtates. French. 8vo. 2 vols. —— An accurate and manly writer, and of enlarged and liberal views. M.

A philoſophical view of M. de Voltaire's temper and character, &c. 8vo French. *Geneva.* —— A principle of juſtice, and a deſire of defending merit againſt the moſt unjuſt and illiberal attacks, appear to have been our author's ſole motive for giving this account of Voltaire's quarrels with about twenty writers, all named. M.

The travels of Henry Wanton, to the Terra

Auſtralis. Italian. 8vo. 4 vols. *London.* —— Quite as ideal as Robinſon Cruſoe: but it has a different ſtyle of merit; it abounds with character, ſentiment, and philoſophical obſervation. M.

A general eſſay on the principles of Tactics. To which is prefixed, A diſcourſe on the preſent ſtate of politics, and of the military art in Europe; together with the plan of a work, intitled, The political and military ſtate of France. Illuſtrated with copper-plates. French. 4to. 2 vols in one. *London, chez les Libraires Aſſociés.* —— This author appears to be a perſon of extenſive knowledge, and of a comprehenſive mind: He treats his ſubject in a rational and philoſophical manner; he propoſes many original ideas, with reſpect to various parts of it; in the diſcuſſion of which, he equally expoſes the errors of a long-eſtabliſhed and abſurd *routine* on the one hand, and the miſtakes committed in the contrary practice of frequent and temporary innovation on the other. His ſtyle and manner too are animated, and often elegant. M.

An epiſtle from Souhouet, on his death-bed, to M. de Maupeou, Chancellor of France. French. 12mo. *Paris. Republiſhed in London.* —— The fictitious, dying Souhouet, here aſſumes the name and character (we ſuppoſe) of one of the real members of the new company, or tribunal, or parliament, lately *ſet up* by the Chancellor Maupeou, on the annihilation of the old parliament of Paris; and, under the guiſe of being his confident and friend, and the only one out of eighteen millions who does not hold his name in execration, *ſtabs daggers* to his ſoul. — His French *Juvenal*, like his great archetype, draws the character, and delineates ſome of the more ſtriking traits of the private hiſtory of ſeveral members of the new parliament, in the very gall of bitterneſs. M.

Artificial electricity. By J. Baptiſta Beccaria, Profeſſor of Natural Philoſophy in the univerſity of Turin. Italian. 4to. *Imperial Elector.* — It is probable, that, in the hands of ſkilful electricians, this work will tend greatly to promote the knowledge of that ſcience. M.

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An agreeable companion for a few hours. 2 s. *F. Newbery.* —— Theſe fugitive pieces may be ranked among the few poetical productions of recent date, the peruſal of which can afford pleaſure to a reader of genuine taſte. C.

EDINBURGH.

Letters to the Rt Hon. Lord Mansfield, from Andrew Stuart, Eſq; London, printed in the month of January 1773. Entered in the Hall-book of the company of Stationers, according to act of parliament. Printed in 4to, on a very fine paper, and ſewed in marbled paper. 5 s. No printer or publiſher's name —— The ſubject of theſe Letters is Lord Mansfield's conduct in the Douglas cauſe. They are four in number; conſiſting, the firſt, of 39 pages; the ſecond, of 58, beſides 5 pages on a ſmall type, being extracts from the proof; the third, of 43, beſides 4 pages on a ſmall type, being two letters, in French, from Meſſ. Danjou and D'Outremont, to Mr Stuart; and the fourth, of 42 pages. None of them have a date or ſubſcription, except the laſt, which is dated, *Berkeley ſquare, Jan.* 12. 1773, and ſigned AND^W STUART. — Four letters are annexed, which Mr Stuart received after the final determination of the cauſe [xxxi. 108.], from four eminent lawyers who were employed in it, viz. the Hon. Charles Yorke, March 26. 1769; Mr Solicitor-General Dunning, May 27. 1769; Mr Alexander Wedderburn, May 22. 1769; and Sir Adam Fergusſon, March 11. 1769 — Two or three friends received copies of this pamphlet, by poſt, at Edinburgh, in the end of January; and, in a week or two after, a parcel of it came down, and it was ſold publicly in the ſhops of that city: all the copies were ſoon bought up. It is properly a London publication — It may give pleaſure to one of our correſpondents [xxix. 22. 230.], to find, that one of the aforementioned lawyers is entirely of his mind. Mr Yorke's letter concludes thus: "I would not have urged ſome things at the bar of the Houſe of Lords as I did, if I had not felt the weight of them. In ſuch cauſes, an advocate is unworthy of his profeſſion, who does not plead with the veracity of a witneſs and a judge." In a late caſe [xxxiii. 617.], our correſpondent's propoſal was adopted by one of the parties.

ODE for the NEW YEAR 1773.

By William Whitehead, Eſq; Poet-Laureat.

WRapt in ſtole of ſable grain,
With ſtorms and tempeſts in his train,
Which howl the naked woods among,
Winter claims the ſolemn ſong.
Hark! 'tis Nature's laſt farewell;
Every blaſt is Nature's knell!

Yet ſhall glooms oppreſs the mind,
So oft by ſage experience taught
To feel its preſent views confin'd,
And to the future point th' aſpiring thought?
All that fades, again ſhall live;
Nature dies but to revive.

Yon ſun, who fails in ſouthern ſkies,
And faintly gilds th' horizon's bound,
Shall northward ſtill, and northward riſe,
With beams of warmth, and ſplendor crown'd;
Shall wake the ſlumbering buried grain
From the cold earth's relenting breaſt;
And Britain's iſle ſhall bloom again
In all its wonted verdure dreſt.

Britain, to whom kind Heav'n's indulgent care
Has fix'd in temperate climes its ſtated goal,
Far from the burning zone's inclement air,
Far from th' eternal froſts which bind the pole.
Here dewy Spring exerts his genial powers,
Here Summer glows ſalubrious, not ſevere;
Here copious Autumn ſpreads his golden ſtores,
And Winter ſtrengthens the returning year.

O with each bleſſing may it riſe,
Which Heaven can give, or mortals bear!
May each wing'd moment as it flies,
Improve a joy, or eaſe a care,
'Till Britain's grateful heart aſtoniſh'd bends
To that ALMIGHTY POWER from whom all good deſcends.

The Origin of TRAGEDY in Scotland.

A Prologue, written after the building of the New Theatre in Edinburgh. [xxx. 162.]

LOng ere th' Arcadian left his native grove,
Where firſt was tun'd the paſt'ral pipe of love;
Ere yet in Greece the tyrant's ſtern command
Had ſtruck to ſilence all the tuneful band;
Ere yet the drooping Muſes left that ſcene,
Where fav'ring Heav'n at firſt had fix'd their reign,
And fled, with Freedom, to ſome happier ſhore,
Where chains and ſcourges could moleſt no more;
Ere yet the ſong of Mantua's ſwain ſhe knew,
And o'er her plains the haughty eagle flew,—
The hills of SCOTIA echo'd loud the ſtrain
Of many a tuneful, many a happy ſwain;
Enraptur'd oft, her native groves among,
Enjoy'd the ſweet, the tender melting ſong;
When *Yarrow*'s pleaſing ſhepherd tun'd his reed,
Or *Mary* echo'd from the banks of Tweed;

Or, high upon a northern cliff afar,
Stern *Ossian* blew aloud the trump of war.
Yet here the *Tragic Muse* had never trode,
Nor shook the bloody dagger, nor the rod:
No lofty buskin grac'd the scottish stage,
To teach the fatal end of savage rage:
The hapless fate of suff'ring worth to show,
And bid the tears of sympathy to flow;
Till deep embower'd amid a sacred shade,
In heav'nly strains her fav'rite THOMSON play'd:
Rejoic'd the heard, and felt her native fire
Breathe in each note, and rouse the poet's lyre;
Then hie'd her quickly to the chosen place,
And clasp'd her darling in a fond embrace;
View'd all the scene; on ev'ry hand she found
The genuine marks of true poetic ground:
Here hung the rugged rock, and deep below,
Thro' bending trees, the founding waters flow;
There tow'ring mountains lift their airy heads,
And far beneath are spread empurpl'd meads.
Mark here my son, in ecstasy she cried,
The bulwarks that almighty Rome defy'd:
Behold their annals thro' a vast of time,
What mighty heroes hail thy lofty rhyme,
And toil on thee direct their wistful eyes,
Impatient in thy deathless verse to rise!
She spoke:—but lo! another son of fame
With skilful hand assumes the mighty theme.
He strikes the lyre: in tender numbers flow
The tender tale of matchless *Rudolph*'s woe.
A bolder strain, and fierce for glitt'ring arms,
Panting for glory, full of dire alarms, [bend
Young *Douglas* comes: th' amaz'd spectators
From the full bench, and shouts the concave rend.

Then ev'ry Scottish breast with ardour glow'd,
From ev'ry tongue applauding accents flow'd,
To taste the stage, to dignify the scene,
In grateful honour to the *Tragic Queen*.
Fair for the plan this sacred spot they chose,
And lo! this temple to the goddess rose.
Save may it stand, and long the care engage
Of many a polish'd, many a happy age.
Like this for learning, and for taste renown'd,
With genius, candour, and with freedom crown'd.

On BEAUTY.

To a YOUNG LADY.

Little suspects that this poem, which is sent us by a correspondent, is not of a very recent date; and we know not but it may be already in print.]

BEauty! thou pleasing charm, whose mystic sway
Rids that sex rule whom Nature bade obey,
Ah! say, what art thou? how shall we explore
The secret cause that makes mankind adore?
Whence flows that power resistless o'er the soul,
That can the great subdue, the good controul;
Make Wisdom tamely drag the captive chain;
Wound without arms, and without force constrain?
And thou whom Heav'n hath blest with every art,
To charm the eye, or captivate the heart,
Say, first inspirer of my raptur'd strain,
What magic lodges in that lovely frame?
Is't a gay bluth of shining dyes alone,
Whose lustre shakes our haughty Reason's throne?
Could a few well-mix'd colours thus impart
The glowing bosom, and the raptur'd heart,
The Painter's art might rival Beauty's pow'r,
The varied landscape or the blooming flow'r.
But Beauty's pow'r from something nobler flows,
And more akin to Heaven, from whence it rose.
By Nature drawn, in each fair face we find
The pictur'd image of a lovely mind
'Tis this which charms, that thro' the outward grace
The soul looks out, and sparkles in the face.
Thus 'tis a mind that makes our hearts its prize,
Seen in the face, or shadow'd in the eyes.
And if we're cheated by a lovely mien,
Where the fair form belies the soul within,
Beauty will soon lament its triumph past;
Good-humour only bids its conquests last:
For charms which outward form alone display,
May blaze awhile, and dazzle for a day;
But short their reign, and feeble is their sway;
Soon grown familiar to the sight, they die;
Pall on the taste, and languish to the eye.
But when some favourite is by Heav'n ordain'd,
It bids fair features clothe a fairer mind;
It bids good humour and good sense conspire,
Temp'ring calm thought with lively Fancy's fire;
Bids Wit with Beauty, Truth with Art agree,
— And that fair compound bids AMANDA be.
Beauty has charms to tame the savage mind,
Soothe human life, and polish human kind;
To rouse the dull, enlarge the narrow soul'd,
Soften the fierce, and make the coward bold:
Low at its feet make haughty tyrants fall,
And reign supreme o'er conqu'rors of the ball.
In vain our Reason would our breasts defend,
Gravely remonstrate, and the flame suspend:
We drink unwary in the soft desire,
And thought but serves to fan the rising fire.
Go then, aspiring man! and toil for fame;
In fields of Death immortalize your name;
Or at the helm of empire proudly stand,
And rule the conquer'd pow'rs with sceptered hand:
Go, at thy nod bid wav'ring hosts obey,
And weep a world's too little for thy sway!
Or pore on Nature's laws, ascend the pole
Trace in what orbits wand'ring planets roll;
Or sit superior in the grave debate,
Plan the sage scheme, and weigh the nation's fate:
Go thus, vain fool, and boast thy Reason's sway
Then be thyself, and Beauty's pow'r obey;
The sex that's born t'obey, confess ador'd,
And own their triumph o'er creation's lord.

ELEGY sacred to the memory of the late Laird of CLACKMANNAN. [xxxiv. 398.]

AH me! what funeral pomp is this appears!
In yonder isle 'tis sure some monarch lies;
The mournful nymphs and swains are bath'd in tears,
And rend the yielding air with dismal sighs.

'Tis BRUCE, the great, the worthy, the renown'd;
'Tis BRUCE, the last of all that ancient line;
Whose days have been with fame and honour crown'd,
Now fall'n a victim to devouring Time.

Fell archer! — on our joys thou dost intrude;
Nor birth nor virtue's self can 'scape thy sway;
Could valour, goodness, aught thy force elude,
BRUCE ne'er had mingled with the silent clay.

But fix'd by sad mortality's dread fate,
Man's born the destin'd victim of the grave;
Alike must prove th' unalterable state,
The thoughtless fool, — the learned and the brave.

But falls the mighty BRUCE unsung by bards,
Descends he to the tomb without one lay,
Whilst venal scribblers, urg'd by mean rewards,
Make pompous vice appear as bright as day?

No, — sure: — though conscious of th' unequal verse,
A youthful Muse bedews his sacred urn;
Essays his matchless virtues to rehearse,
'Till all with imitative ardor burn.

But how shall all the Nine declare his worth,
In every character of life confess'd?
Light weighs the scales of his illustrious birth,
Pois'd with the many virtues he possess'd.

Benevolence, with all the social train
Of mildest graces, lodg'd within his breast;
The supplicating poor ne'er pled in vain,
But amply found their sorrows all redrest.

But 'bove the painter's skill, or poet's art,
To trace the genuine worth that fill'd his mind;
The amiable feelings of his heart,
Were ornamental to the human kind.

What boots these valued gifts? when Death assails,
The monarch moulders like the private man;
Th' insatiate archer over all prevails,
Our short duration bounded to a span.

Yet vain we seek him 'mongst the silent dead;
He, angel-wing'd, from earth took rapid flight;
From Age, and pale Disease, from Death he fled,
To gain immortal youth in fields of light.

There he God's works with wonder doth pursue;
His great probation finish'd here below,
That rapt'rous vision rush'd upon his view,
Which makes th' angelic choir with ardor glow.

This charming hope sustains yon mournful fair,
Whose loss not sceptre'd monarchs could restore,
The blow with Christian fortitude to bear,
Till they unite above to part no more.

If there's distinguish'd mansions 'mongst the just,
Such souls, when freed by death, shall thither fly:
Alas! that such superior virtue must
To frail mortality submit, and die.

But soft! —— for, lo! a radiant band appear,
Of martial heroes clad in armour bright,
Whose gleaming steel, whose nodding helmets clear,
Illume the place with more than mortal light.

And next a bright majestic female form,
With goddess-like demeanor, grace their train;
Angelic beauty did her face adorn,
While sadly sweet she sung this plaintive strain.

"Hail, mortal! view this warlike band, of old
So great, so fierce, subdu'd alone by time,
On earth by me inspir'd; — in me behold
The ancient Genius of the BRUCIAN line.

How have I led them on to deathless fame,
Whose deeds historic annals still supply!
Proud *Caledonia* gloried in that name,
Whose great illustrious actions ne'er shall die.

Th' extinction of that ancient race bewail;
BRUCE falls like an exalted mountain-oak,
Whose sheltering foliage gay could not avail,
When thund'ring winds gave the o'erturning shock.

Long have I hover'd o'er yon mighty walls,
Have seen my champions fix the fate of kings;
Ah me! shall strangers now feast in my halls?
Sad emblem of all sublunary things.

No, no; — while Heaven protects yon peerless dame,
To chear their friends, — t' instruct a world below,
There blessings flow, which verse can near proclaim,
And which on earth God seldom doth bestow.

Who after her shall grace the festive board,
Shall dare assume her power, or fill her place?
Not all inventive Luxury can afford,
Shall match her mild persuasive winning grace.

But let the Prophet guide the Poet's verse;
BRUCE in these towers once more a name shall raise,
Once more their ancient honour shall increase,
And late posterity resound their praise."

EPITAPHS on General WOLFE.

While some on Marble scratch their HERO's fame,
On Time QUEBEC engraves WOLFE's *deathless name.*

IN EUNDEM.

MONOSTICHON.

Vixisti WOLFI; — *Quebec* bene cætera dicat.

Alloa, Jan. 27. 1773.

OCCASIONAL PROLOGUE.

Spoken by Mr DIGGES, *previous to Mrs* YATES's *firſt appearance on the Edinburgh ſtage.*

[*The curtain begins to riſe. — Mr Digges enters, ſpeaking to the people behind the ſcenes.*]

A moment's pauſe! — and, ere the curtain riſe,
That bids our mimic kingdom meet their eyes;
Firſt, let their ſervant for himſelf appear,
To wiſh returning ſeaſons joyful here.
In ſuch a wiſh he acts no ſtudied part,
It flows unbidden from his grateful heart:
If grateful hearts of eloquence could boaſt,
Did they who feel the deepeſt, ſpeak the moſt,
What bounds of language ſhould his thanks controul?
But *ſilence* ſpeaks the *language* of the ſoul!
Yet a new boon to night he dares to crave,
(For bounty gives anew where bounty gave)
Your favour on a *ſtranger*'s part to claim;
Yet not a *ſtranger*, if we know by Fame;
Yet not a *ſtranger*, when her country's known,
For ſhe can boaſt of Scotland as her own.
But here, by no ungenerous rules confin'd,
Why plead we *country* to the liberal mind?
If here, in Paſſion's genuine colours dreſt,
She comes, a *native* to the throbbing breaſt;
If, when ſhe droops a hapleſs mourner here,
Congenial Pity ſheds the willing tear,
She needs no foreign aid to prop her cauſe,
Nor would ſhe wrong your *hearts* to *aſk* applauſe.

THE TRIUMPH OF SCOTLAND.

LOſt in the windings of a lonely grove,
In careleſs Freedom's radiant robes array'd,
Breathing the dictates of maternal love,
The guardian power of CALEDONIA ſtray'd.
"'Tis done," ſhe cried, — "the meaſure is complete;
No higher fame my godlike ſons can crave;
Oft have their en'mies bended at their feet,
And vanquiſh'd nations have proclaim'd them brave.

Of old they triumph'd in the field of war,
And boldly fought for honour and renown;
But now fair SCIENCE, like a ſparkling ſtar,
Directs their ſteps, and marks them for her own.

Bleſs'd with the gentle, ſoothing *Arts of Peace*
In manly joys they paſs the fleeting hour;
Diſcord is mute, contentious clamours ceaſe,
And dark Rebellion's clouds no longer lour.

With laughs around, and Muſic's chearful voice,
In ſweeteſt notes reſounds thro' every plain;
Contentment reigns, the rural ſwains rejoice,
And blooming virgins join the ſprightly ſtrain.

The beam of Fancy warms the poet's line,
The glowing Muſe delights the liſtening age,
While DIGGES and YATES their matchleſs powers combine,
And *Scenes of Nature* dignify the ſtage."

An ODE on her Majeſty's birth-day.

Performed at the caſtle of Dublin, on Monday Jan. 18. 1773.

Full Chorus.

COme, thou ever-ſmiling power,
Goddeſs of the feſtive hour,
Heaven-born Mirth! and bring along
The tuneful harp, the loyal ſong;
HIBERNIA's Viceroy leads the train,
HARCOURT commands the grateful ſtrain;
Each willing mind with joy obeys,
And to the beſt of Queens the tribute pays.

Song.

A form where awful honour ſhines!
Where ſenſe and ſweetneſs move!
And angel innocence refines
The ſentiment of love!

Recitative.

While Time brings mortal beauties to decay,
Fair Virtue gives what Time can't ſteal away.

Song.

Thoſe are the whole of Beauty's theme;
Without whoſe vital aid
Unfiniſh'd all the features ſeem,
And all the colours fade.

Recitative.

Such bliſs for Britain's King doth Heav'n decree
(To us is given celeſtial liberty),
A train of Kings their mutual love ſupplies;
A glorious ſcene to Albion's raviſh'd eyes!

Song.

What clouds ſoe'er without are ſeen,
Oh, may they never enter in!
But Virtue's pow'rs can ſafely bind,
And well protect the ſpotleſs mind.

Recitative.

See Britain's King and Britain's Queen,
Quit the throng'd palace (ſplendid ſcene),
To ſeek the calm and ſweet receſs,
Where dwells that cherub, Happineſs!

Song.

There, in the Evening's ſolemn hour,
Adore that great Almighty Pow'r,
Who takes ſuch virtues to his care!
And angels guard the Royal Pair.

Recitative.

Religion now freſh beams her chearing ray,
Since our lov'd Monarch gladly owns her ſway.
At this example Vice, aſtoniſh'd, falls,
Deteſted exile from thoſe happy walls.

Full Chorus.

Come, thou ever ſmiling power,
Goddeſs of the feſtive hour,
Heaven-born Mirth! and bring along
The tuneful harp, the loyal ſong;
Each willing mind with joy obeys,
And to the beſt of Queens the tribute pays.

EPIGRAM from MARTIAL.

BEfore a ſwan, behind a crow,
Such powd'ring did I never know.
Ah! ceaſe your arts, — Death knows you'll
And, ſpite of all, will keep his day. (gra

H

HISTORICAL AFFAIRS.

TURKY and RUSSIA.

"*Hague, Jan.* 19. According to the latest accounts from Bucharest, the negotiations for peace promise the most happy consequences. It is confirmed, that the Turks have consented to the independency of Crimea, and the free navigation of the Black sea; and the Russian plenipotentiaries have proposed to the Turks to extend this navigation to the English and Dutch, but no answer has yet been made to this proposal."

"*Constantinople, Dec.* 3. Since accounts have been received from Bucharest, of the armistice being prolonged to the 21st of March next, all the preparations for an approaching campaign are ceased, which makes us hope that a peace will be concluded on before that time."

"*Petersburg, Jan.* 10. We have the pleasing intelligence to convey to you, that we have almost a certainty of the pacific ending of all differences between Russia and the Porte. Within these few days a Turkish courier, with a guard of twenty spahis, arrived here, with an assurance from the Grand Signor and the divan, that they have acceded to all the terms demanded by the Empress, and flattered themselves that the armistice would meet with no more obstructions, but be happily concluded on both sides. This news was immediately made public, and occasioned great rejoicings."

POLAND.

"*Warsaw, Dec.* 16. They write from Przemisl, that provisions there are at an immense price; and to increase the misery of the inhabitants, the lands are so infested with mice, that the wheat and rye in the ground are devoured by them, insomuch that in some places they have been obliged to sow their corn three times over. These animals likewise destroy great quantities of hay and corn in the barns; and there are such multitudes of them, that it seems as if they were collected there from all parts of Europe."

"*Warsaw, Dec.* 19. The foreign troops, which still remain in this capital, are a very great oppression on its inhabitants. The number of Prussians amounts to near 9000, the Imperialists 10,000, and the Russians 5000; the former are quartered in the city, and suburbs of the city, but the Russians are in the cantonments within a few miles; and the provisions which used to arrive daily from those places, and were the chief subsistence of the citizens of Warsaw, are now monopolized by the military, who compel the peasants to take what price they please to give; so that the poor Polanders are in a dreadful situation."

"*Warsaw, Dec.* 22. The payment of the subsidy of 2000 ducats, established by King Augustus III. arising from the salt-works at Wilicska, to maintain an hospital in this city, and which subsidy was confirmed by the present government, was suspended on the seizure of those salt-works by the Austrians; but the King, notwithstanding the great diminution in his finances, has given an incontestable proof of his goodness of heart, by causing the 2000 ducats to be paid to the said hospital out of his privy purse."

"*Warsaw, Dec.* 23. The ministers of the King having given him an account of the uniform declarations presented lately by the Barons de Rewitski and de Stackelberg, envoys from the courts of Vienna and Petersburg, and M. Benoit, minister from that of Prussia, to accelerate the holding a general assembly of the nation, the ministry hath delivered, on the part of his Majesty, to the above envoys an answer, which is in substance as follows.—"That the King being informed by the declarations of the courts of Petersburg, Vienna, and Berlin, of their desire relative to the convocation of the diet, and at the same time warned of the inconveniencies which delays would be productive of, is inclined to satisfy them in that respect; with the view, not only of removing every pretext for an aggravation of the misfortunes which afflict Poland, but also with the hope, that this mark of regard will affect the three powers, and dispose them to terminate them as soon as possible, and in the most just and advantageous manner for the republic. In consequence of which his Majesty hath published circular letters for the convocation of the grand assembly of the senate, which must indispensably precede the diet, and which is fixed to be on the 8th of February next. The interval between this convocation and the circular letters is so short, as to be hardly sufficient to give time enough for the Nobility at a distance

diſtance to attend. Given at Warſaw, this 14th of December, 1772."

"*London, Jan.* 14. The following is the purport of the circular letters iſſued by the King of Poland for convoking the ſenatus conſilium, on the 8th of February next.

"STANISLAUS AUGUSTUS, &c. &c. &c. Animated with the pureſt zeal, and with the moſt indefatigable attention for the good of this country, we think it our duty to ſalute the Republic from that throne, which Divine Providence, by the means of a free and conſtitutional election, hath been pleaſed to commit to our care. We formed the moſt flattering expectation, that we ſhould have peaceably reigned over a people equally deſerving and dear to us, though we were well appriſed, that a country could be never happy till the governing powers had learned to apply themſelves with activity and vigilance in uniting maturity with deliberation, and authority with law. Having diſcovered both thoſe qualities united in the high ſenate or council of ſtate, we reſolved, after the example of our illuſtrious predeceſſors in the throne, to hold ſuch an aſſembly in the capital of our dominions once a-week; but fate, envious of our promiſed proſperity, ſo nouriſhed and ſcattered the ſeeds of ambition and diſcord, as to defeat our purpoſes, and render every wiſe intention of that patriotic aſſembly totally unprofitable. It is not at all neceſſary to recapitulate the ſeveral ſteps, or inveſtigate the numerous means, by which this country has been brought to the diſtreſsful extremity to which we now behold it reduced; the uniform declarations of the three powers, followed by a public notification of their final intentions, on their poſſeſſing themſelves of the provinces belonging to the republic, having been already laid before ſuch of you as were preſent in the aſſembly convoked on the 6th of laſt October, and in which we proteſted, in the moſt ſolemn manner, againſt thoſe proceedings, as contrary to the laws and prerogatives of this ancient kingdom. It was at the ſame time agreed to convoke a diet, according to actual circumſtances; previous to which it was neceſſary to aſſemble a ſenatus conſilium; which being fixed to be held on the 8th of February, it is our pleaſure, by theſe circular letters, that you return, and attend us on that day; by which means you may have it in your power to act for the proſperity of your country in concert with your monarch, whom Divine Providence hath placed and hitherto ſupported on the throne, and miraculouſly ſaved from the hands of aſſaſſins, when ſeemingly beyond the power of human ſuccour. You all perceived, that we were indefatigable in preventing the evils under which this unhappy country groans, when they firſt commenced, till raſhneſs and calumny became too powerful, and till factious rage roſe to the pitch of declaring an interregnum, and entering into meaſures for depriving me of my life. Alas! what miſery this imprudence has cauſed; and how much more fatal would it have been, if thoſe audacious engagements had been as proſperous as they were wicked and unlawful? But as we are reſolved to do every thing in our power to remedy the evils with which this nation is threatened, we formally declare to the ſeveral confederacies, and to the members of which they were compoſed, as it they were particularly ſpecified, that if they do not, on the receipt of theſe authentic teſtimonials of our final reſolutions, return to their fidelity, they ſhall never obtain a pardon for their paſt offences againſt the ſtate, an aſylum in their country, nor be ever hereafter intitled to aſſiſt at any of the national aſſemblies, but ſhall be driven away from every thing that ſhould be held dear by them, till their duty towards their ſovereign ſhall reconcile them to their injured King, and common father. Whoſoever ſhall repent, and acknowledge his faults, and attribute the ſource of all their misfortunes, both public and private, to a ſecret hatred, and, without any other view but purely the good of his country, ſhall co-operate with the King towards the reſtoration of its religion and liberties, ſhall obtain once more our favour, forgiveneſs, and utmoſt protection. Such is the end we propoſe to ourſelves by calling this aſſembly, which it is your duty to endeavour all in your power to accompliſh, and will aſſure to you our good will. I pray God to take you under his protection."

"*Warſaw, Jan.* 10. Many of the Nobility and Gentry are conſtantly arriving, in conſequence of being ſummoned to attend the approaching diet. Various are the conjectures founded on the preciſe intent of this convention, many of them vague and ridiculous; but the moſt general

neral opinion is, that the fate of this long miſerable kingdom will then be entirely ſettled."

"*Frontiers of Poland, Jan.* 16. The number of Poliſh Lords which return to their country, under the preſent circumſtances, are very few; many chuſing rather to abandon their fortunes, than be reſtored to the poſſeſſion of them by a ſubmiſſion which they are averſe to.

"*Warſaw, Jan.* 5. The chiefs of the Confederates, who are arrived here in order to make their peace with the King, unanimouſly oppoſe the holding of a forced ſenatus conſilium, and inſiſt that his Majeſty ſhould defend the honour and glory of the republic. But what can be done in ſuch an unequal conteſt? The troops of the three co-partitioning powers continue advancing farther into the kingdom. The Pruſſians are poſted on the Viſtula, within eighteen miles of this capital; the Auſtrians are eſtabliſhed on the Viſtula, near Cracow; and the Ruſſians have paſſed the Dwina."

"*Berlin, Jan.* 2. The new acquiſitions which the Pruſſian monarch has lately gained, are likely to prove the moſt lucrative and happy part of his dominions. Too well ſkilled in politics to rule the inhabitants in an arbitrary manner, he treats them with all the tenderneſs and mildneſs of favourite children. He has provided wholeſome regulative laws, eaſed them (for the preſent) of many burthenſome taxes, beſtowed new honours on their Nobility and Gentry, which modes he will certainly continue, till a powerful army is introduced, and every town of conſequence ſecurely fortified; then thoſe people may probably feel the oppreſſion which now galls the inhabitants of Pruſſia."

"*Warſaw, Dec.* 29. They write from Dantzick, that the propoſitions made to that city on the part of the King of Pruſſia were rejected, and immediately after the cannon were planted upon the ramparts."

"*Hague, Jan.* 15. The letters from Dantzick can ſcarcely expreſs the diſtraction the inhabitants are in, on account of the behaviour of the King of Pruſſia. They are in perpetual fear of that monarch's blocking up or beſieging of the city, in order to force them to comply with his terms; and their ſituation is the more deplorable, becauſe they have no proſpect of aſſiſtance."

A pamphlet has lately appeared here, intitled, *Obſervations on the declarations of the courts of Vienna, Peterſburg, and Berlin, concerning the partition of Poland.* The author has taken ſuch liberties with the character of the King of Pruſſia, that his miniſter at the Hague has obtained a ſuppreſſion of the ſale of his work."

Warſaw, Jan. 6. The Pruſſian Eagles, which were placed near the town of Thorn, have been removed about half a mile further; and the commiſſaries of the King of Pruſſia acquainted the magiſtrates, that the other poſſeſſions of the town were to come under the dominion of their ſovereign; and to that effect they muſt this month ſend deputies to Marienwerder, to render homage for thoſe poſſeſſions. We are aſſured, that the magiſtrates of Thorn have written a letter to the chamber of domaines and war at Marienwerder, in which they excuſe themſelves from paying that homage, as it would be contrary to the oath of fidelity which they had taken to their ſovereign."

"*Berlin, Jan.* 20. Advice has juſt been received here from Thorn, in Poliſh Pruſſia, that the Pruſſian troops have ſat down in form before that town, in order to compel the inhabitants to yield obedience to the King of Pruſſia. The magiſtrates and a majority of the people have publiſhed a declaration, That they will never give up their liberty into the hands of abſolute power; that they own themſelves ſubjects of the King of Poland, and of no other monarch; and as ſuch they will defend their own rights, as well as thoſe of their ſovereign. But theſe efforts will not be attended with ſucceſs. The Pruſſian King is reſolved to make them ſubmit, and his ſtrength and power can command it."

"*From the Viſtula, Jan.* 15. The King of Pruſſia has written a letter to the Palatines of Great Poland in the following terms. — "Meſſ. the Senators of the Palatinates of Poſen, Kaliſch, and Greſen. I acknowledge with you, agreeable to your letter of the 12th inſtant, that as your province has ſuffered very much by the Confederates, it is but juſt to relieve it as much as poſſible with reſpect to the contributions demanded from thoſe diſtricts. I would willingly concur in it, but the preſent circumſtances render thoſe contributions indiſpenſable, and will not permit you to be exempt from them. I flatter myſelf, on the other hand, that as the neceſſity of the times render them indiſpenſable, you will not refuſe to comply

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with them, at leaſt, in part. I have commiſſioned Major Loſſow to treat with you on this ſubject; and there is no doubt but he will regulate things in ſuch a manner, as to give you perfect ſatisfaction. Yours, &c. [Signed] FREDERICK."

"*Frontiers of Poland, Jan.* 16. The oath which the Ruſſians require the inhabitants of this country to take is as follows. "I do ſwear to Almighty God, upon the holy Evangeliſts, and I promiſe by the preſent oath, an inviolable fidelity, and perfect obedience, to her Imperial Majeſty the Empreſs Catherine Alexiowna, Autocratrix of all the Ruſſias, and to her beloved ſon the Grand Duke Paul Petrowitz, preſumptive heir of all the Ruſſias. I promiſe to be always ready to ſacrifice my life, and to ſhed the laſt drop of my blood, for their ſervice. I kiſs the holy ſcriptures, and the croſs of my Saviour, to render my oath ſacred and inviolable."

"*Warſaw, Jan.* 13. The eſtates of ſeveral Poliſh Nobles, amongſt others thoſe of the Prince Sopicha and the Prince Czartoryſki, ſituated in the portion of this kingdom fallen to the ſhare of the Ruſſians, have been confiſcated, becauſe the proprietors did not render homage to the Empreſs of Ruſſia within the time that was fixed for that purpoſe. The ſtaroſty of Kryſzow, which brings in annually 100,000 Poliſh florins, is taken from Count Mniſzeck, General of Great Poland, to be conferred on the Ruſſian General Kretczetnikow."

"*Vienna, Dec.* 30. A very current report prevails here, that his Imperial Majeſty will be ſoon involved in a war with one of the two powers with whom he has ſhared the kingdom of Poland. The contention, we are informed, has aroſe from the right which each potentate ſets forth to the city of Warſaw, and ſome other towns of importance, ſuch as Cracow, Gneſna, Grodno, &c. Our Emperor claims a prior right to Warſaw and Cracow, which will certainly be conteſted by the Empreſs of Ruſſia."

"*Warſaw, Dec.* 26. All the misfortunes with which Poland is at preſent afflicted, were very remarkably predicted in every circumſtance by John Caſimir, one of the Kings of Poland, in a diſcourſe he made to the ſtates aſſembled in 1661, when he announced to them his reſolution of abdicating the crown. The Poles could not think, that the diſcourſe of that prince, who, after having been a Jeſuit, and then a Cardinal, mounted the throne, afterwards abdicated his crown, and was made a monk in France, where he died, was a prophecy, which would be fulfilled in our days. This piece, which is in a work of John Chriſtian Lunig, is too intereſting for us to omit giving the heads of it.—"I foreſee (ſays he) the misfortunes which threaten our country, and I wiſh it may pleaſe God to make me a falſe prophet. The Muſcovite and the Coſſack will join the people who talk the ſame language with themſelves, and will poſſeſs themſelves of the duchy of Lithuania. The confines of Grand Poland will be open to Brandenburg; and Pruſſia itſelf will, either by treaty, or the force of arms, make war upon our territory. In this diſmemberment of our eſtates, the houſe of Auſtria will not let ſlip the opportunity to ſeize on Cracow. Each of our neighbours will rather chuſe, by force of arms, to gain a part of Poland, than to wait to poſſeſs, ſome day or other, perhaps a kingdom whoſe ancient privileges defend it from the enterpriſes of foreign powers."

SWEDEN.

"*Stockholm, Dec.* 5. The importation of ſalt, uſed for ſalting herrings, &c. into the ports and provinces of Gottenburg and Bahus, which hitherto has been confined to Swediſh ſhips only, has, by a reſcript, dated the 3d inſtant, been allowed to any foreign ſhips, notwithſtanding an ordinance made in the year 1724, which forbids the entry of any foreign veſſels into any of the ports of Sweden with that commodity."

"*Stockholm, Jan.* 9. From Wennerſburg, we have the melancholy news, that on the 1ſt of this month, between the hours of eleven and twelve at night, the wind being at ſouth-weſt, a moſt violent ſtorm aroſe, which laſted about ten minutes. Afterwards a moſt ſhocking earthquake was felt; ſeveral houſes were thrown down: the famous Dahlbo bridge, which was about 650 yards long, was blown up. The ſea roſe above thirty feet perpendicular; all the ſluices at Trotthaetta burſt. The ſhips lying at anchor, among which were ſeveral laden with iron, were thrown aſhore and bulged. The loſs of individuals, at preſent known, is computed at 100,000l, beſides the ruin of the ſeveral bridges and ſluices, and beſides what is expected from other harbours. Whether any lives are loſt, we do not know as yet.

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DENMARK.

"*Copenhagen, Jan.* 5. The government having been appriſed that there had been diſperſed among ſeveral perſons a collection of pieces relative to the proceſſes againſt the Counts Struenſee and Brandt, hath iſſued an order for ſeizing all the impreſſion, and publiſhed a moſt rigorous reſtriction againſt any bookſellers, printers, or hawkers, who ſhall dare to ſell the ſame."

GERMANY.

"*Francfort, Dec.* 20. We learn from Sclavonia, that the mortality which raged for ſome time paſt among the cattle, has totally ceaſed; and that they had found the greateſt ſucceſs in the uſe of petaſite root, as well in recovering thoſe who were ill, as in preſerving others from catching the infection."

"*Berlin, Dec.* 3. Our warlike preparations are purſued with more than uſual vigour; and though we have a well-diſciplined army of about 250,000 men ready to take the field, yet our King has lately taken into pay the Heſſian and Brunſwick troops; and the Emperor, with whom our King is in a ſtrict union and alliance, has likewiſe taken the Saxon and Palatine troops into pay. The ſecrets of our cabinet, you know very well, are impenetrable; yet the beſt politicians affirm, that this formidable armament cannot ſolely be meant to ſecure the poſſeſſion in Poland, but that certainly our King and the Emperor will put in force their favourite ſcheme of annihilating our ancient ſyſtem of government in Germany, and eſtabliſh out of its ruins two formidable monarchies. The impotence of the different powers, and the tyranny and oppreſſion of the German princes, bid fair for ſuch an event ſoon to take place."

UNITED PROVINCES.

Meſſ. Cliffords, very eminent bankers at Amſterdam, ſtopt payment in the end of December; which gave a ſhock that was felt in moſt of the great trading towns in Europe. Soon after, the merchants of Holland were forbid to grant any more loans to foreign powers for a limited time.

"*Amſterdam, Jan.* 15. A plan has been propoſed to, and approved of by, the magiſtrates of this city, to prevent for the future ſuch fatal failures as have happened lately, which are computed to amount to eleven millions of guilders. The ſcheme propoſed is, to eſtabliſh a fund of three millions, from which all perſons may be ſupplied with the ſums they want at a moderate intereſt upon proper ſecurity. The privileged caſhiers of this city exerted their utmoſt endeavours to render this ſcheme abortive, but the public good has happily prevailed againſt all the intereſt of thoſe mercenaries."

A letter from Amſterdam, dated a few poſts later, ſays, "Our magiſtrates have juſt now given a proof of their wiſe foreſight, in allowing proviſionally the ſum of two millions of guilders (about 180,000 l.) taken out of the city-treaſury, to be advanced on goods or good bills, to ſuch perſons as may be in immediate want of money, at a moderate intereſt, which will be applied to the uſe of the poor of all religions. The adminiſtration and direction of this uſeful plan is intruſted to the management of ſix commiſſioners; and the principal merchants have agreed to indemnify the city for any loſs that may accrue."

FRANCE.

"*Paris, Dec.* 31. On Tueſday laſt, about ten o'clock at night, a fire broke out in the Hotel Dieu, occaſioned by the melting of tallow, which caught fire, and burnt with too much rapidity to be ſtopt. The Governor of Paris, and all the chief magiſtrates, attended, and ſtrong detachments of guards were planted at all the avenues. Three rooms, occupied by ſick people, were burnt; and a great number of the miſerable objects therein loſt their lives. The nuns ſleeping-room, the laundry, and all the old chapel, fell a prey to the flames; which rage ſtill; and ſeveral of the firemen and ſoldiers were killed. The cathedral of Notre Dame is filled with beds and ſick people from the hoſpital, who are viſited and relieved by ladies of the higheſt diſtinction. Great numbers of the ſick are daily removed in covered carriages to the hoſpital of St Louis, out of Paris. All the avenues to the Hotel Dieu are ſtopt. It is now midnight, and the fire is not yet extinguiſhed. We have, however, the ſatisfaction to aſſure the public, that not near ſo many lives are loſt as was at firſt reported."

"*Paris, Jan.* 8. Letters from Amiens adviſe, that a child of about four years old,

old, the ſon of a paper-maker at Moutiers, fell lately into the river of Breſſe, and was not taken out till about an hour after. He was immediately afterwards put on a bed, and covered up warm, where he remained for two hours; when a ſkilful perſon arriving, he extended himſelf over the child, and breathed ſtrongly into his mouth, at the ſame time ſtopping the child's ears. After this he took the child near a fire, where he rubbed him ſucceſſively with flannel, eau de vie, and ſalt; but this not effecting his purpoſe, the artiſt went to ſeek a pipe with tobacco. However, this laſt ſuccour was not wanted; for, during his abſence, the child gave ſigns of life, and in a ſhort time after was entirely recovered."

"*London, Jan.* 21. Letters from Paris mention, that his Majeſty has ordered the ſum of 50,000 livres to be iſſued towards making good the damages occaſioned by the late fire at the Hotel Dieu; and that the Royal Family, the Princes of the Blood, the miniſtry, and ſeveral other perſons of the firſt rank, have contributed very largely to the ſame purpoſe."

"*London, Jan.* 30. Letters from Paris, by yeſterday's mail, mention, that on a ſtrict examination the number of thoſe who periſhed in the great fire at the Hotel Dieu, amounted only to fourteen burnt, and nineteen wounded. Great numbers of patients, at firſt thought to have been loſt, were found at different houſes, where they had taken refuge in their fright."

"*Paris, Dec.* 15. A perſon animated with a benevolent zeal, has found out the ſecret of drawing an eſſence from barley, of which four ounces (at the rate of one ſol per ounce) will be a ſufficient daily ſubſiſtence for a man; who would grow too fat if he uſed more. With this eſſence, it is ſaid, human nature may be amply ſupported, without any other aliment, even bread. The project will be propoſed to the government; and if it is found practicable, and be adopted, will be a great relief to the poor at this time of general ſcarcity;"

SPAIN.

"*Madrid, Dec.* 14. We have lately had the diſagreeable news, ſome time ſince received from South America [xxxiv. 572], more fully authenticated than ever. A Spaniſh ſhip of war, named the *Aſturias*, Don Antonio de Merada commander, but juſt arrived at Cadiz from the South ſeas, entirely confirms it; and adds, that when he ſailed from the city of Conception, in Chili, the natives were entirely in poſſeſſion of the town of Caſtrio on the iſland of Chili, and likewiſe the whole iſland itſelf; alſo that the Chileſe had attacked the city of St Jago, the capital of Chili, and burnt great part of it to the ground."

PORTUGAL.

"*Lisbon, Jan.* 1. We have juſt received the agreeable advice, that the diſturbances which have lately happened at ſome of the Portugueſe ſettlements on the coaſt of Africa, particularly at Arverri, Mogador, and Arebo, are now entirely ſettled, through the bravery and conduct of the Portugueſe commander at Benin, who, with about 700 Europeans, (moſt of them irregulars), and about 8000 friendly Negroes, gave battle to an army of between 30 and 40,000 Negroes, under the command of the King of Whidah, a Negro prince, and obtained a complete victory; ſince which, peace has been effectually re-eſtabliſhed."

BARBARY.

"*Ancona, Dec.* 14. A rupture is talked of between Spain and the Barbary powers, in ſupport of which it is ſaid, that the Spaniards have taken a large ſhip belonging to a certain power, and carried her into Carthagena, on pretence that ſhe was laden with warlike ſtores, deſigned as a preſent for the Dey of Algiers. — According to all our accounts from the coaſt of Barbary, the French are highly reſpected all over Algiers, where the merchants of that nation have obtained leave to build, not only an hoſpital, but a church, beſides ſeveral privileges with reſpect to their trade. The Dey of that regency carries his attention to the French ſo far, as to take all the European goods he has occaſion for of the French conſul; to whom beſides he gives leave to ſet ſix ſlaves at liberty every year. This favour is looked upon as a return for the ſervices done by the French in aſſiſting the Dey with engineers, &c. to put his navy on a reſpectable footing, and fortifying all the ſtrong places in his dominions."

BRITISH WEST INDIES.

"*London, Jan.* 16. Letters from St Chriſtopher's,

Chriſtopher's, dated the 16th of November laſt, mention, that they had had ſome fine rains there, and that the iſland was in a fair way of making a great quantity of ſugars this year, the canes being very fine and green; and that a great number of the houſes which had been blown down in the late hurricane were rebuilt; and they were in hopes in a little time to complete the whole, as they hourly expected ſhips from England with building-materials, which were much wanted."

England.

At a general court of the Eaſt-India company, Dec. 3. the chairman acquainted the court, that the directors had come to a reſolution of recommending, for the enſuing half-year, a dividend at the rate of ſix per cent. Mr Sullivan diſſented: he gave in a ſtate of the company's affairs, ſhewing their ability to divide ten per cent. and to give as much to the public, with a plan for that purpoſe. Mr Rumbold gave his opinion in favour of ſix per cent. Gov. Johnſtone alſo gave in a ſketch of a plan, which agreed with Mr Sullivan's, in point of the company's flouriſhing ſtate; but recommending it, at the ſame time, as a matter of prudence, to confine themſelves to ſix per cent. till out of the power of parliament. Mr Dempſter delivered two plans; but declined entering into their contents, the court being thin, and the hour late.

This ſubject was taken again under conſideration Dec. 23. Mr Mackworth, as chairman of the committee of twenty-five proprietors for inſpecting the affairs of the company [xxxiv. 687.], aſſured the court, though their caſh-account was very low at preſent, the general complexion of their affairs looked well; that he thought it his duty (though they had not gone through the whole of the accounts) to tell the proprietary on that day what progreſs they had made; he therefore produced a debtor and creditor account of the company, where a conſiderable balance appeared in their favour; he likewiſe aſſured the court, they need be in no danger from a ſuppoſition of their becoming further dependent on government; for according to their accounts from the year 1767 to the preſent time, the latter could not wiſh for better events; he produced, in ſupport of this opinion, annual accounts within that period, where, for every 300,000l. on an average the company carried to their credit, government, with cuſtoms, fine, &c. &c. received one million and a quarter. He arraigned very freely the late proceedings of parliament; and concluded by ſaying, he was not afraid to declare, he wondered how they dared take ſuch unconſtitutional meaſures. Gov. Johnſtone agreed on the whole with Mr Mackworth, but differed in ſome concluſions: he threw the blame of all the company's miſcarriages on the directors, who were buoying up the ſpirits of the proprietary with a pompous account of their affairs, when they knew every circumſtance that at preſent affects them. Mr Dempſter ſaid, that though from the plan he had comunicated, he imagined they needed not be ſo much diſtreſſed as to reduce their dividend ſo low, yet ſome late determinations of another houſe had rendered their affairs ſo uncertain, that he had altered his opinion, and that he therefore believed the preſent dividend was the moſt eligible for the preſent.— A ballot was taken, Dec. 29. That the dividend for the laſt half-year ſhall be three per cent.; and carried in the affirmative, 131 to 12.

The preſent diſtreſs of the Eaſt-India company, ſays a writer in the London papers, cannot be deemed ſurpriſing to thoſe who conſider one moment the cauſes which have contributed to haſten their ruin: let us, ſays he, attend to the following fact. — Our colonies ſent annually to England 600,000l. for the ſingle article of tea; but when it became a queſtion, whether they ſhould be ſlaves under that importation, or freemen importing it from a foreign market, the tea remained in the company's warehouſes, and the 600,000l. went to Holland and Denmark. That non-importation or loſs of market — has now continued for five years, — it makes three millions difference in their caſh-account, — is the true cauſe of the great quantity now on hand, — is an immenſe loſs to the revenue, to the merchant, to the ſtate, and has operated very conſiderably towards producing the preſent ſcarcity of money, and univerſal ſtagnation to all buſineſs. This is not all: — the ſame motives which prevented our coloniſts from conſuming the company's tea, alſo prevented the purchaſe of many other valuable articles; — it is difficult to aſcertain the amount, but it is very conſiderable, and makes a monſtrous difference in the ſtate of their af-

fairs. In ſhort, it has been the principal cauſe of their approaching diſſolution.

At a meeting of the creditors of Meſſ. Neale, James, Fordyce, and Down [xxxiv. 473.], held at Guildhall, Dec. 23. to declare a dividend; it appearing, that the proofs and claims under the commiſſion amounted to 181,350l. 19s. 5d. and that the aſſignees had a balance in their hands of 33,019l. 15s. 2d. a dividend of 4s. in the pound was ordered to be made.

The office of regiſter of the conſents of perſons going to the plantations, given to Mr Thompſon [xxxiv. 696.], has lain dormant for more than half a century. It was eſtabliſhed in the reign of Charles II. at a time when great encouragement was given to people to ſettle in the colonies, to prevent their taking a part of the hire, and defrauding the hirers, which was common at that time.

At the anniverſary meeting of the royal academy, held at Somerſet-houſe, London, Dec. 10. the following premiums were given, viz.

A gold medal to John Keyes Sherwin, for the beſt compoſition in oil colours, the ſubject of which was Coriolanus taking leave of his family.

A gold medal was likewiſe given to Thomas Engleheart, for the beſt model of a la-relief, repreſenting Ulyſſes addreſſing himſelf to Nauſicaa.

Three ſilver medals were given for the beſt drawings of academy-figures, to Meſſ. Charles Sherriff, William Griffin, and John Howes.

A ſilver medal was given to Mr John Lochee, for the beſt model of an academy-figure.

Two ſilver medals for the beſt drawings of architecture, being drawings of the banqueting-houſe at Whitehall, done from accurate admeaſurements, were given to Meſſ. John Rudd and John Soan.

After the medals were given, the preſident, as uſual, read to the ſtudents a diſcourſe. He firſt recommended to them to keep their principal attention fixed on the higher excellencies of the art, but cautioned them againſt attempting to unite contradictory excellencies, whether in regard to form, or the expreſſions of paſſions. He then ſpoke of the ſubordination in which certain excellencies ought to be kept, and expatiated on the leading principles and capital works of thoſe who excelled in the great ſtyle, which gave him an opportunity to ſpeak of the characters of Raphael, and Michael Angelo. He then proceeded to thoſe ſtyles, the excellency of which conſiſted principally in the union and harmony preſerved in all the component parts, without which a work cannot have that marked and determined character which is ſo much the characteriſtic of genius: under this claſs he more particularly placed Salvator Roſa; and likewiſe ſpoke of the peculiarity and character of ſtyle of Pouſſine, Rubens, and Carlo Maratti. He concluded, by giving them a caution to be as ſelect in thoſe whom they endeavour to pleaſe, as in thoſe whom they endeavour to imitate, alluding to the exhibitions, which, though producing ſuch admirable effects, by nouriſhing emulation, and calling out genius, have alſo a miſchievous tendency, by reducing the painter to an ambition of pleaſing, indiſcriminately, the mixed multitude of people who reſort to them.

On the 27th of November, Mr Capon of Loweſtoffe, who had been formerly ſubjected to fits, and who about twenty months before had forcibly ſwallowed a crown-piece, which was placed between his teeth to prevent his biting his tongue, brought up the ſame, but was almoſt choked in the effort. He has ſince enjoyed a continued ſtate of health, which before was frequently interrupted with pains in the ſtomach, and a diſagreeable taſte in his mouth. The piece, when brought up, was ſo black that the inſcription could not be read, and ſtill continues very much diſcoloured.

In the morning of Dec. 22. was a great fog at London and its environs, inſomuch that carts, coaches, and other carriages ran againſt each other at noon-day. The darkneſs was ſo great, that the carriages of the nobility and gentry were attended with lights, the ſame as at midnight.

An Eſquimaux Indian captain, with his ſquaw or wife, appeared in London, Dec. 24. They were brought by Commodore Shuldham from Newfoundland, to eſtabliſh a laſting friendſhip with the Eglats, as theſe people call the Engliſh nation. The Eſquimaux nation inhabit the country on the north of the river St Lawrence, between whom and the inhabitants of Greenland there has been found a remarkable affinity of language.

Mar-

MARRIAGES.

Jan. 6. At Sir James's ſeat of Mochrum, Stirlingſhire, William Copland, Eſq; younger of Colliſton, Advocate, to Miſs Dunbar, daughter of Sir James Dunbar of Mochrum, Bt.

Berlin, Jan. 12. On Sunday laſt, the 10th inſtant, the marriage of the Landgrave of Heſſe-Caſſel with the Princeſs Phillipine of Schwedt was celebrated in the great apartments of the palace. *Lond. gaz.*

BIRTHS.

Jan. 19. At Copenhagen, her R. H. the Princeſs Louiſa of Heſſe, of a princeſs.

22. At Hatton, the ſeat of the Earl of Lauderdale, Lady Betty Gavin, of a daughter.

23. Mrs Gartſhore, younger of Alderſton, of a ſon.

29. The Hon. Mrs Erſkine, of a daughter.

"*The Queen's Palace, St James's Park, Jan.* 30. 1773. Laſt Wedneſday morning, [Jan. 27.], between ſix and ſeven o'clock, the Queen was happily delivered of a prince. The Archbiſhop of Canterbury, ſeveral Lords of the Privy Council, and Ladies of her Majeſty's Bedchamber, were preſent." *Lond. gaz.*

DEATHS.

St George, in Grenada, Oct. 24. A few days ago died here, James Forthon, Eſq; in the 127th year of his age. He was born at Bourdeaux in 1645, arrived in the Weſt Indies in 1694, married at St Chriſtopher's, and removed from thence to Martinico, where he remained thirty years, and has reſided forty-eight years in this iſland. He retained his eye-ſight to his 117th year, and enjoyed good health and a chearful diſpoſition till within a few days of his death.

Nov. In St Vincent's, in a ſkirmiſh with the Caribs, Capt. Fordyce, of the 14th regiment of foot.

In the ſame iſland, Capt. Corner, of the Creſcent, and Enſ. Bruce, of the 70th regiment.

19. At Williamſburgh, William Nelſon, Eſq; Preſident of his Majeſty's Council in Virginia.

Dec. 21. At Rome, Mr Duſign, nephew of the late Earl of Hyndford.

22. At Genoa, John Baptiſt Cambiaſo, Doge of that republic.

28. In his palace at Mittau, aged 83, Biron, Duke of Courland. He reſigned the government to his ſon Peter in 1769 [xxxi. 657.] ——In the hiſtory of human kind, we can ſcarcely find a parallel to the late Erneſtus John Duke of Courland. It was impoſſible that any perſon could have experienced greater changes of fortune than he did. From being the ſon of a ſtableman, or at beſt a groom of the horſe, to Prince Alexander of Courland, he roſe to the ſovereignty of that country, and in the end attained to the actual government of the vaſt empire of Ruſſia during the whole reign of the Empreſs Anne, and for ſome months after her deceaſe, which he ruled with the moſt uncontrolled deſpotiſm. This man, once more reduced to his original obſcurity, was for above twenty years afterwards obliged to truſt to his daily labour for ſupport, in the inhoſpitable and frozen regions of Siberia. Yet, when he had paſſed his 74th year, he was again reinſtated in his dukedom [iii. 91. 271.; xxiv. 265; xxv. 112.], and died a ſovereign prince. What muſt make the hiſtory of this man's life appear ſtill more extraordinary is, that he was but a perſon of very moderate talents, untinctured with learning, deſtitute of wit, brutal, avaricious, haughty, implacable, and cruel. Aſtein, the Imperial miniſter at the court of Peterſburg, who deſpiſed and deteſted him, uſed to ſay, "When Biron (that being the Duke's name) ſpeaks of horſes, he ſpeaks like a man; but when of men, or to them, he ſpeaks as a horſe would do." — He was, however, indebted to nature for ſome advantages that will always be a powerful recommendation: He had a fine perſon, rode gracefully, and was of an athletic make. In fine, a robuſt conſtitution, animal vigour, and a comely appearance, have wrought as ſurpriſing changes at the court of Peterſburg, as ever a beautiful face, and an affectation of wit, have at that of Verſailles. *Lond. papers.*

30. At Sauveterre, in the canton of Berne, aged 109, James Noguez ſurgeon. —— He had always enjoyed a ſtate of good health, though he lived pretty freely. The day he died he had been at maſs, dined with an appetite, and was buſied in the afternoon in ſome ruſtic employments.

At Reading, Berks, in the 103d year of his age, Mr Steward, farmer.

Jan. 1. At his ſeat at Fintray houſe, in his 64th year, Sir Arthur Forbes of Craigievar, Bt.

1. At London, after a few days illneſs, Sir Richard Glyn, Bt, member for Coventry, Alderman of Dowgate ward, London, and Preſident of Bridewell and Bethlem hoſpitals.

1. At London, Capt. George Sutherland of Forſs. This gentleman was one of the claimants for the honours of Sutherland, he being confeſſedly the heir-male of the ancient Earls of Sutherland. [xxxiii. 226.]

1. At Edinburgh, Mrs Alexander, widow of William Alexander, Eſq; late Lord Provoſt of that city.

3. At Bath, the Lady Scarborough

4. At Gribton, Dumfrieſſhire, aged 68, Mrs

Mrs Katharine Menzies, wife of William Irving of Gribton, Esq;

4. At Monkland-house, James Hamilton, Esq; younger of Gilkerscleugh.

5. At Lisbon, Charles Seton, eldest son of Hugh Seton, Esq; of Touch.

7. At Innerwick, Mrs Smith, spouse to Mr David Smith, minister there.

7. At Hampstead, aged 102 Mr James Newnham. He was a Lieutenant in the Duke of Marlborough's own regiment, and was wounded in the battle of Blenheim, receiving a ball in his thigh, which went quite through.

8. At his seat near Glasgow, James Campbell, Esq; of Blythswood.

9. At London, Sir James Gray, K. B. late ambassador to the court of Madrid.

9. At London, after a short illness, the lady of the Earl of Rochford, Secretary of State.

9. At Morpeth, aged 100 years, Mrs Milbourne, who kept the Nag's-head inn there.

11. At London, in the 103d year of his age, Mr Dykes, a Quaker, formerly a woollen draper in Cheapside.

11. At Skipness, Mrs Anne Campbell, daughter of the deceased David Campbell of Shawfield, Esq; and widow of Colin Campbell, Esq; of Skipness.

11. At Hanover, in the 2d year of her age, the Princess Carolina Augusta, youngest daughter of Pr. Charles of Mecklenburg Strelitz.

12. At Edinburgh, Mr William Smith, principal clerk to the chancery in Scotland.

13. At Edinburgh, Mr William Nicol merchant in that city.

13. At London, aged 80, Thomas Smith, Esq; a gentleman of great property in Yorkshire. On the 17th of December last was determined, in the court of chancery, in favour of this gentleman, a law suit between him and the Earl of Pomfret, concerning the property of a lead mine, which had subsisted five years, and in which there had been three appeals to the House of Lords, and two trials at law, the costs of each party estimated at little less than 10,000 l.

15. At London, in the 78th year of his age, Nathan Smith, Esq; Lieutenant Governor of Chelsea hospital. He had served in the army fifty-six years.

15. At London, in the 24th year of his age, Mr Thomas Denham. His death was occasioned by eating two hundred oysters, which he did for a wager of fifty guineas. He was allowed an hour and a half, but eat them in an hour and twenty-three minutes.

17. At Edinburgh, Mrs Elizabeth Erskine, widow of James Patullo of Balloutlie, Esq;

18. At Thornton, Aberdeenshire, Robert Simson of Thornton, Esq;

[illegible] At Ilanish, Neil Maclean of Boreray, Esq;

20. At Old Aberdeen, Mr James Mitchell, first minister of Old Machar, in the 72d year of his age, and 45th of his ministry, 42 of which he had spent in that parish.

21. At her seat near Chiswick, in an advanced age, the Duchess-dowager of Somerset. She was sister of the late Earl of Winchelsea, and widow of Charles Seymour Duke of Somerset, who died in 1748 [xi 481.]; to whom she was married Feb. 4. 1725-6; and by whom she had issue, two daughters, viz. Lady Frances, who married the late Marquis of Granby, by whom she had two sons and two daughters, and died Jan. 25. 1760; and Lady Charlotte, who married the present Earl of Aylesford, by whom she has a numerous issue.

22. At Edinburgh, in the 78th year of his age, Andrew Douglas, Esq;

23. At Darlington, aged 111, John Nichols, a labouring man.

23. At Aberdeen, Peter Gordon, Esq; younger of Avochy, advocate.

23. At London, Peter Macintosh, of Aberdeen, Esq;

24. At his house at Maidenhead, Gabriel Hanger, Lord Coleraine, of Ireland. His title and estate devolves upon his eldest son, a colonel in the guards.

24. At Edinburgh, Mr Thomas Rannie, sen. merchant.

25. At Dunfermline, Mrs Agnes Murray, relict of David Carmichael, Esq: late of Balmedy.

26. At London, aged 103, Thomas Frowd. He was on board Adm. Blake's ship, and was wounded in the calf of his leg in the memorable engagement with Van Trompe.

27. At Edinburgh, John Patullo, Esq; of Ballouslie.

27. At Edinburgh, Capt. Alexander Campbell, late of the 25th regiment of foot.

30. At Aberdeen, Mrs Anne Duff, sister of the late Earl Fife, and spouse of William Baird, Esq; of Auchmedden.

30. At Stobhall in Perthshire, in an advanced age, Jane Duchess-dowager of Perth, widow of James Duke of Perth, eldest son of John, Chancellor of Scotland, who followed the fortunes of James VII and was created Duke by that prince during his residence at St Germain's. She was daughter of George first Duke of Gordon, and grandaunt to the present Duke; and was mother of James Duke of Perth, who died May 11. 1746, on board a French vessel, as he was making his escape after the rebellion 1745. [xi. 595.]

P. S. Feb. 4. At Edinburgh, Mary, also Duchess-dowager of Perth, widow of Lord John Drummond, who was second son of the Chancellor, and on the death of his nephews James and John, (who were both engaged in the rebellion 1745), took the title

title of *Duke of Perth*. She was daughter of Charles fifth Earl of Traquair.

It is pretty remarkable, that another Dutchess-dowager of Perth is ſtill alive. She is widow of Lord Edward Drummond, third ſon of the Chancellor, who on the death of Lord John laſt above mentioned, took the title of the *Duke of Perth*, and who died at Paris 1760. She was daughter of Charles Earl of Middleton, who in the 1688 likewiſe followed the fortunes of James VII. and reſided at St Germain's till his death. This lady ſtill continues in France.

PREFERMENTS.

From the London Gazette.

The King has been pleaſed,

Jan. 2. to order letters patent to be paſſed under the great ſeal of Ireland, for granting unto Robert Lord Viſcount Clare, the Rt. Hon Welbore Ellis, and Charles Jenkiſon, Eſq. the office or offices of Vice-Treaſurer and Receiver-General and Paymaſter-General of all his Majeſty's revenues, profits, and caſualties whatſoever, in that kingdom.

9. to appoint Frederick Lord North, the Rt Hon. George Ouſlow, Jeremiah Dyſon, Charles Townſhend, and Charles James Fox, Eſq, to be his Commiſſioners for executing the office of Treaſurer of his Majeſty's Exchequer.

War-office, Jan. 13.

1ſt troop of horſe-guards: William Daffy, Gent. to be Sub-Brigadier and Cornet, vice William Brereton; by purchaſe.

2d reg of dragoon-guards: Cornet Ferne Andrews to be Lieutenant, vice John Honeyborne; by purchaſe.

Ditto: John Smith, Gent. to be Cornet, vice Ferne Andrews; by purchaſe

7th reg. of dragoons: William Bertram, Gent. to be Cornet, vice John Patown; by purchaſe.

Coldſtream reg. of foot-guards: Serj.-Maj. Henry Harman to be Quartermaſter, vice William Hoddinet, deceaſed.

2d reg. of foot: Capt. Charles Baldwin to be Captain, vice Samuel Malcher; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Lieut. William Gray to be Captain-Lieutenant, vice Charles Baldwin; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Enſ Daniel Ruſton to be Lieutenant, vice William Gray; by purchaſe.

Ditto: David Baird, Gent. to be Enſign, vice Daniel Ruſton; by purchaſe.

3d reg. of foot: Lieut. John Maxwell, from halfpay, to be Lieutenant, vice Walter Nugent, who exchanges.

11th reg. of foot: Surgeon John Macdonald to be Surgeon, vice William Baines; by purchaſe.

14th reg. of foot: Capt. John Stanton, to be Captain, vice Brabazon O'Hara, deceaſed.

Ditto: Lieut. James Urquhart to be Captain-Lieutenant, vice John Stanton.

Ditto: Enſ. Andrew Laurie to be Lieutenant, vice James Urquhart.

Ditto: George Brown, Gent. to be Enſign, vice Andrew Laurie.

15th reg. of foot: Lieut. Henry Murray to be Captain, vice Patrick St Clair, who retires on halfpay.

Ditto: Enſ. George Montagu to be Lieutenant, vice Henry Murray.

15th reg of foot: Enſ. Joſeph Willock, from halfpay, to be Enſign, vice George Montagu.

18th reg. of foot: Lieut. John Hamilton, from halfpay, to be Lieutenant, vice William Graves, who exchanges.

19th reg. of foot: Lieut. Benjamin Tong, from halfpay, to be Lieutenant, vice Thomas Dawſon, who exchanges.

22d reg. of foot: Capt. Henry Elwes, to be Captain, vice Edward Brereton; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Lieut. Edward Brabazon, to be Captain Lieutenant, vice Henry Elwes; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Enſ. William Scroggs, to be Lieutenant, vice Edward Brabazon; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Charles Dalrymple, Gent. to be Enſign, vice William Scroggs; by purchaſe.

23d reg. of foot: Richard Julian, Gent. to be Second Lieutenant, vice John André, preferred; by purchaſe.

Ditto: John Wilſon, Gent. to be Second Lieutenant, vice John Ridley, preferred; by purchaſe.

30th reg. of foot: Robert Millar, Gent. to be Enſign, vice John Bramley; by purchaſe.

32d reg. of foot: Enſ. Leeds Booth, to be Lieutenant, vice Gilbert Hillock; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Caroline Robert Herbert, Gent. to be Enſign, vice Leeds Booth; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Thomas Honeyborne, Gent. to be Enſign, vice Charles Steder; by purchaſe.

39th reg. of foot: Enſ. George Hume to be Lieutenant, vice Henry Hayes; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Richard Henry Buckeridge, Gent. to be Enſign, vice George Hume, by purchaſe.

Ditto: Chaplain John Morgan, of the 34th reg. of foot, to be Chaplain, vice Henry Wright, who exchanges.

60th reg. of foot: —— Ricketts, Gent. to be Enſign, vice Bartholomew Uniacke; by purchaſe.

61ſt reg. of foot: Thomas Peter Bonel, Gent. to be Enſign, vice James Gilchriſt, who retires.

66th reg. of foot: Lieut. Eyre Mingay to be Adjutant, vice Thomas Caſtle, who reſigns.

69th

69th reg. of foot: Lt-Col. John Naim, from halfpay, to be Major, vice Philip Baggs, who exchanges.

Ditto: Enf. Archibald Campbell to be Lieutenant, vice Thomas Lloyd; by purchafe.

Ditto: Owen Lloyd, Gent. to be Enfign, vice Archibald Campbell; by purchafe.

Maj.-Gen. James Provoft to be Lieutenant-General in America only.

Lt-Col. Charles Gray, of the late 98th reg. of foot, to be Aid-de-Camp to his Majefty.

Lt-Col. Sir Thomas Spencer Wilfon, Bt, of the Coldftream reg. of foot guards, to be Aid-de-Camp to his Majefty.

Lt-Col. George Morrifon to be Quarter-maſter-General of all his Majefty's forces, with the rank of Colonel in the army.

Capt. John Garden, of the 66th reg. of foot, to be Major in the army.

From other papers, &c.

Lord Edgecumbe, Captain of the band of Gentlemen-Penfioners, in the room of the Earl of Litchfield, deceafed.

Horace St Paul, Efq; Secretary to the Embaſſy to the court of France, in the room of John Blaquier, Efq; Secretary to the Earl of Harcourt, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, appointed by his Excellency.

Mr Serjeant Glynn, Recorder of London, in the room of Sir James Eyre. [xxxiv. 578]

Dr Richmond, domeſtic chaplain to the Duke and Ducheſs of Athol, and vicar of Walton, appointed by their Graces Biſhop of Sodor and Man, in the room of Dr Hildeſley, deceaſed.

William Mackenzie, Efq; of Balmaduthy, Advocate, Sheriff depute of the counties of Roſs and Cromartie, in the room of Mr Roſe of Kilravock, deceaſed.

Sum of the quantity and value of Linen ſtamped for ſale in Scotland. [xxxiv. 55.]

From Nov. 1. 1770. to Nov. 1. 1771.

Quantity 13,466,274 1 half yards.
Value L. 620,322 : 6 : 2 : 3.
Medium Price 11 d.

From Nov. 1. 1771. to Nov. 1. 1772.

Quantity 13,089,006 1 half.
Value L. 579,833 : 7 : 5 : 3.
Medium Price 10 d. 5 8ths.

Prices of grain at Haddington, Feb. 5. 1773.

	Beſt.	*Second.*	*Third.*
Wheat,	24 s. 0 d.	23 s. 2 d.	21 s. 6 d.
Bear,	19 s. 0 d.	18 s. 6 d.	17 s. 2 d.
Oats,	15 s. 0 d.	14 s. 6 d.	13 s. 8 d.
Peaſe,	15 s. 2 d.	14 s. 4 d.	13 s. 4 d.

Edinburgh, Feb. 19. 1773. Oat-meal, 1s. 1 d. Bear-meal, 9d. 2 f. Peaſe-meal, 9 d.

The Edinburgh bill of burials for January 1773.

Within the city	Males 34, Fem. 34	68	104. Incr. 12.
In the Weſt-kirk-yard	Males 18, Fem. 18	36	

Age.			N°	Diſeaſes.	N°
Under		2	34	Aged	11
Between	2 &	5	11	Aſthma	1
	5 &	10	6	Bowelhive	2
	10 &	20	5	Chincough	2
	20 &	30	6	Conſumption	28
	30 &	40	10	Childbed	1
	40 &	50	8	Fever	24
	50 &	60	10	Flux	1
	60 &	70	6	Meaſles	2
	70 &	80	6	Rupture	1
	80 &	90	2	Small pox	14
	90 &	100	0	Smothered	3
				Stillborn	4
				Teething	10

An account of the patients in the royal infirmary, Edinburgh, laſt year. [xxxiv. 55.]

In the hoſpital, Jan. 1. 1772	143	1590
Admitted that year	1447	
Particulars of the above ſum.		
Ordinary patients	1086	1590
Supernumeraries	41	
Servants	133	
Soldiers	330	
Of whom,		
Cured in the year 1772	1078	1417
Relieved, though not fully cured	180	
Diſmiſſed by deſire	84	
Diſmiſſed for irregularities	11	
Diſmiſſed as incurable	10	
Died	54	
In the hoſpital, Jan. 1. 1773.		173
Ordinary patients	112	
Supernumeraries	5	
Servants	14	
Soldiers	42	

An account of the number of patients received into and diſmiſſed from the Aberdeen infirmary from Nov. 1771, to Nov. 1772. [xxxiv. 55.]

Patients in the hoſpital Nov. 1. 1771.	80	954
Admitted from Nov. 1. 1771, to Nov. 1. 1772	874	
Of whom,		
Perfectly cured	614	868
Incurable, after a long trial	14	
Recovered, ſo as to follow their uſual buſineſs	140	
Improper, diſmiſſed at their own deſire, and deſerted	66	
Dead	34	
Remaining in the hoſpital Nov. 1. 1772.		86

N. B. Beſides the above number received into the hoſpital, there are 2151 out-patients who have had the benefit of advice and medicines.